

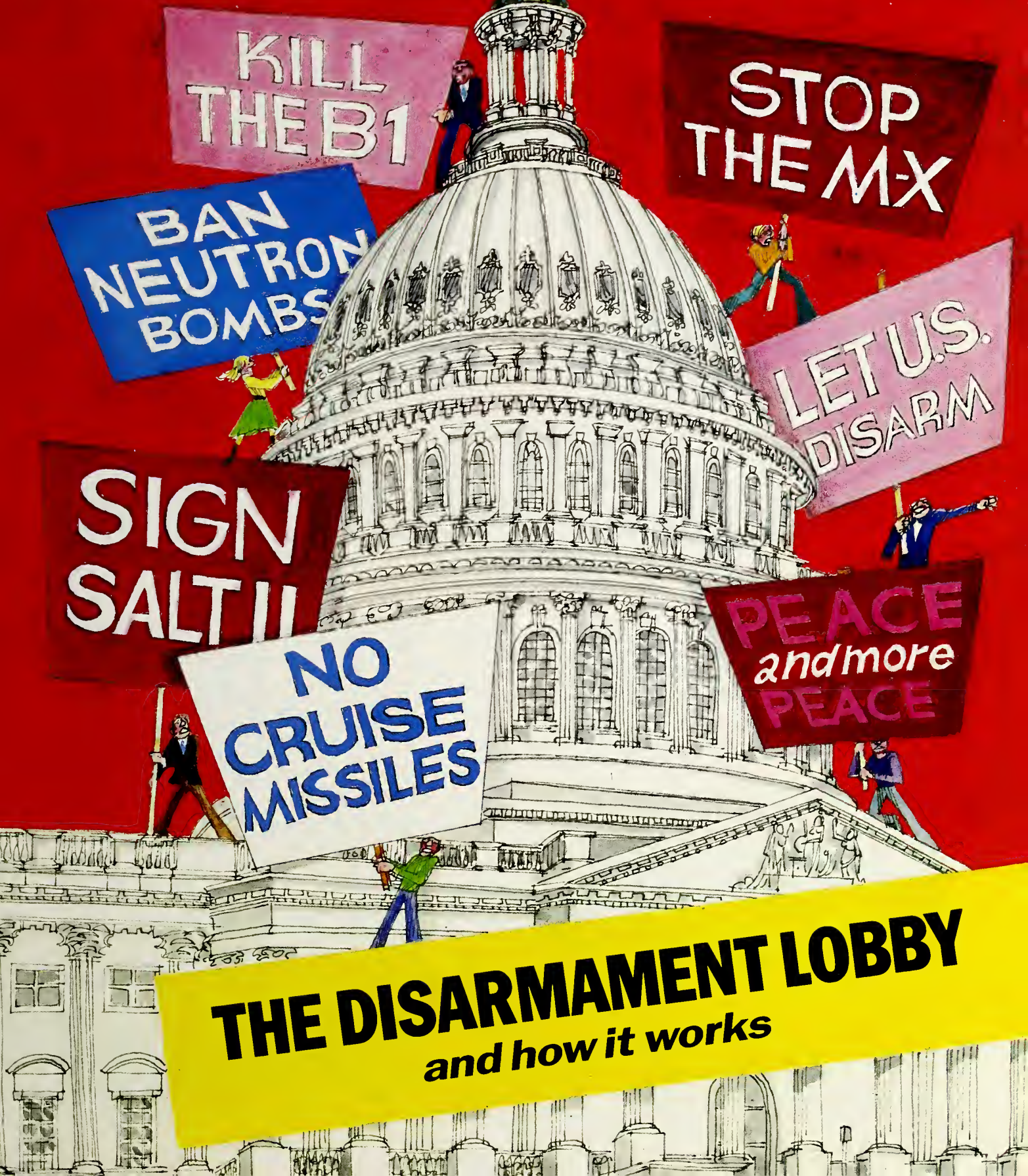
THE AMERICAN

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LEGION

MAGAZINE

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY



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LEGION

MAGAZINE

NOVEMBER 1978



NOVEMBER 1978
Volume 105, Number 5
National Commander
John M. Carey

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The Editorial and Advertising offices of The American Legion Magazine, formerly located at 1608 K Street, N.W. Washington, D.C., are now at 700 North Pennsylvania St., Indianapolis, IN 46206. All correspondence should be directed to the new address.

Manuscripts, artwork, cartoons submitted for consideration will not be returned unless a self-addressed, stamped envelope is included. This magazine assumes no responsibility for unsolicited material.

Microfilm copies of current and back issues of The American Legion Magazine are available through: University Microfilms, 300 N. Zeeb Rd., Ann Arbor, Mich. 48106.

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The American Legion Magazine
Editorial & Advertising Offices
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Indianapolis, IN 46206
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The American Legion Magazine is owned by The American Legion and published monthly. Copyright 1978 by The American Legion. Second class postage paid at Indianapolis, IN, 46204 and additional mailing offices. Price: single copy, 30 cents; yearly subscription, \$3.00. Direct inquiries regarding circulation to: Circulation Department, P. O. Box 1954, Indianapolis, IN 46206. Send editorial and advertising material to: The American Legion Magazine, 700 North Pennsylvania St., P.O. Box 1055, Indianapolis, Ind. 46206.

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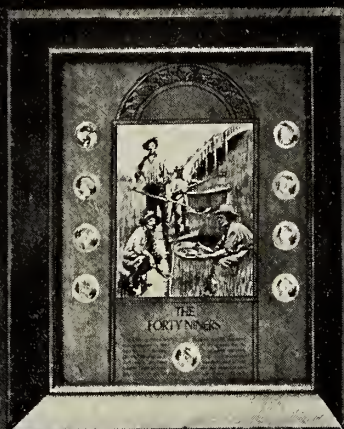
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Commander's Message

THERE ARE many Americans who, with the best will in the world, want to slash our defense spending. They are good people and their motives are commendable. They read about all the billions that are being spent to build up our defenses and believe that the money could be put to better use.



John M. (Jack) Carey

They would like to see it diverted to such things as increases in welfare programs, in more generous Social Security checks, and in extended unemployment benefits. They would like to see some of the billions spent in rebuilding rundown cities, cleaning up the environment, building more schools, providing make-work jobs, etc.

This appeals to millions of Americans, especially to the beneficiaries of such programs, and their expressed wishes generate powerful political pressures for such spending.

It would indeed be nice if the billions needed for this nation's defense could be used for other purposes. Unfortunately, that cannot be done. We are up against a clear and present danger, one that forces us to change our priorities. A look at the map and at the headlines of our newspapers shows that communist encirclement grows closer and more threatening, and there is no mistaking that the military might of the Soviet Union is growing ominously. Indeed there are parallels with what was happening in 1938, when Hitler was arming to acquire *lebensraum*, while the world watched complacently.

(Continued on page 60)



NOTES ON OUR DESK

Letters to the Editor

McGUFFEY REACTION

SIR: The September article on McGuffey's Readers has taken me back 64 years to the one-room schoolhouse and the wonderful fundamental education obtained there. If I had this life to live over again I would like to attend a rural school, and go in for another stint of service to our country where exceptional opportunities for personal growth and experience are to be found.

KEITH G. ELDRIDGE
Epsom, NH

SIR: After viewing the McGuffey cover on the September issue of our magazine I want to go back to school!

JAMES N. MARION
New Hope, PA

SIR: I have read with deep resentment the article, "McGuffey's Readers," in the September issue. The author infers that pioneers of Ohio, Pennsylvania and the Midwest were illiterate... then states this was "understandable." One of the first orders of development in the Northwest Territory was the building of schools, colleges and libraries. It was not a "bookless world." The first library in the Territory was established at Belpre, Ohio in 1795. While settlers were fighting Indians they were also reading books from the library in Farmer's Castle. There were doctors, lawyers, teachers, surveyors, together with army officers from the Revolution. McGuffey had his day but the pioneer was the forerunner.

BERNICE HAYES
Belpre, OH

SIR: I read with delight your article, "McGuffey's Readers" in the September issue. I suspect that I may be one of the last of those educated by Mr. McGuffey's book. From age six to 11 illness prevented me from attending regular school so my father undertook the task of continuing my education. I shall never forget his dismay on examination of the "modern" books that I was to study. He pronounced them worthless and brought out his set of McGuffey Readers. Each day we studied two sets

of lessons that would be returned to school for my grades. He was right. It has been almost 50 years; I still remember Lazy Ned, Greedy Mary and Little Nell, and have no recollection of the stories in the reading books from school. I still have these treasured books. The McGuffey speller is a revelation. In Lesson One the child learns to spell cat and dog. By Lesson Ten he is spelling words like culprit and dulcet. My father was Willard Emmett Craven who taught in one-room West Virginia schools over 70 years ago. Some of his younger students may still be alive. I'm sure they too will agree the McGuffey books were superior.

MRS. ROBERT W. GRIMM
Buffalo, NY

SIR: I read with interest Louis Wolfe's article, "McGuffey's Readers," in your September issue. He stated these were being reprinted. I would like to know the name of the publisher as I'm most interested in obtaining a set of these renowned books.

MRS. JO STARLING
West Jefferson, NC

McGuffey's Readers may be obtained from American Book Co., 450 West 33rd Street, New York, NY. 10001.

KUDOS FOR KOSCIUSZKO

SIR: Your article "Saratoga: The Turning Point" in the August issue gives inadequate recognition to General Thaddeus Kosciuszko for his contribution to this key victory. Ironically the author closes the article with present-day name places as testimonials to Schuyler, Gates and Burgoyne—but not to Kosciuszko. To a large extent historians have similarly overlooked this Polish engineering genius. Major Ernest Cuneo said that had Kosciuszko been born with a name as easily pronounceable as Lee, Grant or Pershing his name would resound throughout Western civilization as one of the foremost military geniuses of all time. The key to the victory at Saratoga rested on the masterful employment of the natural defensive terrain, a talent possessed by Kosciuszko to a remarkable degree as applied

(Continued on page 52)

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The

DISARMAMENT LOBBY

While the Soviet Union arms to the teeth the United States is victimized by those who preach peace at any price.

By JOHN M. FISHER
President, American Security Council

FOR MORE than a decade, official Washington has been unilaterally disarming the United States in the face of growing Soviet military power largely because of a massive, highly organized anti-defense lobby. Flushed with victory, this lobby has increased its efforts to make even deeper slashes in American strength.

The Anti-Defense Lobby

This organized anti-defense lobby

neutron bomb which is needed for our defense of NATO. The cutoff of U.S. aid to Vietnam and Cambodia—a major campaign of the anti-defense lobby—ultimately led to the Communist slaughter of over a million innocent people in Southeast Asia.

The anti-defense lobby has advocated the U.S. troop withdrawals

from Korea and Taiwan and has worked for the defense budget cuts which have so weakened our defenses.

As one measure of this lobby's effectiveness, the United States has cut back its Air Force from 935 strategic bombers to 415; its Navy from 300 major combat surface ships to 169; has frozen its strategic missile strength at the 1967 level; and has scrapped all its missile defenses against both bombers and ICBM's.

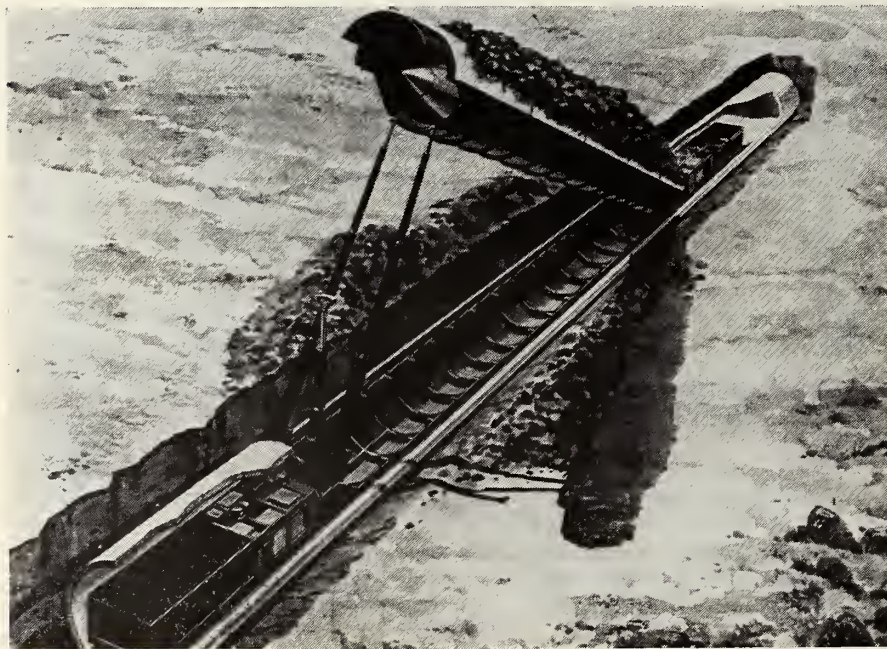
During the past 15 years, the United States has cancelled, in addition to the B-1 bomber, the Skybolt and SCAD air-launched missiles, the B-70 Bomber, the Safeguard and Site Defense ABM systems, and the MBT-70 tank. We have retired the B-47 and B-58 bombers, the Hound Dog air launched missile, the Nike and Bomarc anti-aircraft missile systems, and more than 100 major combat ships. We also ordered our only ICBM production line closed at a time when the Soviets are testing or producing eight new advanced ICBM's.

In every case, either the anti-defense lobby actively promoted these actions or created the anti-defense atmosphere which made these unilateral actions possible.

As if this wasn't enough, the anti-defense lobby now wants to cut out the cruise missiles which President Carter said are needed to replace the cancelled B-1 bomber; cancel the Mark 12A warhead for our current and future missiles; stop the M-X



Another casualty of the anti-defense atmosphere was the powerful new MBT-70 tank. Meanwhile, Soviet tank production increased



The MX Missile, shown here in a trench launching pad

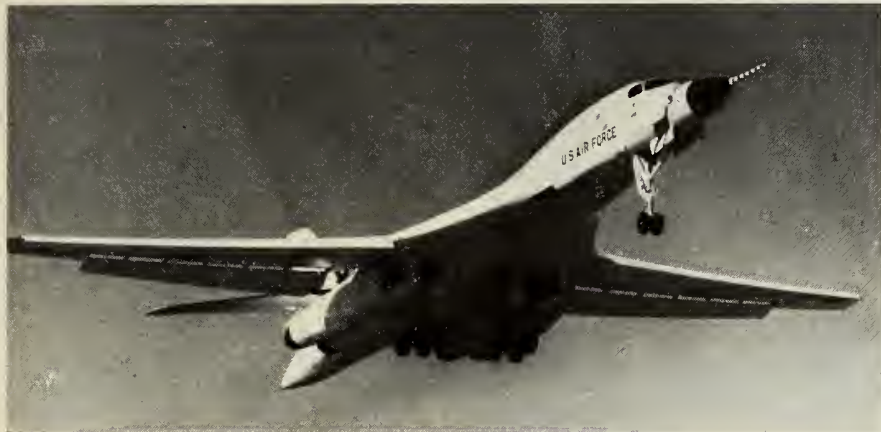
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has claimed much of the credit for cancellation of the B-1 bomber, cancellation of the U.S. ABM missile defense system designed to protect our nation against missile attack, and delay of the decision to produce the

John M. Fisher, who heads the American Security Council, served with the FBI. He is an expert on national defense and works with a large staff of experts in that field.

strategic missile which is designed to be less vulnerable to the newest Soviet missiles than our present Minuteman ICBM's; stop the neutron bomb, and cut off aid to any allies in Asia, Africa and Latin America.

The Soviet Union saw the American withdrawal from the arms race as an opportunity to seize military superiority. As the trend charts show, the Soviets now have about 1,450 ICBM's in underground launchers as compared to the United States' 1054, about 1000 SLBM's to our 656, and over 12,000 defensive missiles to none for the United States.



The Disarmament Lobby prides itself on how it succeeded in stopping the B-1

The Soviets are now superior to the United States in every measurable category of strategic military power except number of warheads and could soon overtake us in that category as their new multiple-warhead missiles are deployed. If our new defense programs were not systematically cut back, the United States would still have superiority.

Secretary of Defense Harold Brown told the *Baltimore Sun* in July 1978 that this country is still militarily superior to the Soviet Union, but the facts speak for themselves. A recent *New York Times*-CBS poll showed that 42 percent of the American people now believe the U.S. to be weaker than Russia while only

12 percent think the U.S. still has military superiority.

Majority Wants Strong Defense

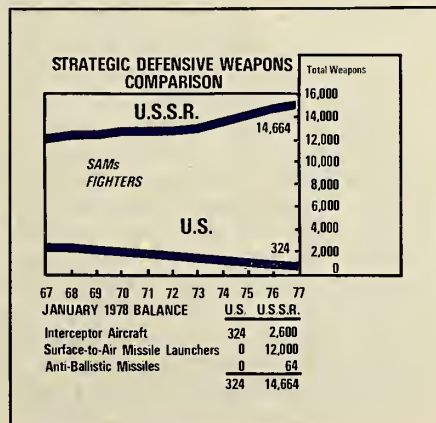
The American public, however, is in favor of a stronger defense. A February 1978 poll by Opinion Research Corporation shows 52 percent of the American public believe the United States should be superior to Russia in military strength while 45 percent say we should be about equal and only 3 percent think the United States should be inferior.

Clearly, the majority of Americans are in favor of military superiority. Further, the issue cannot be divided along liberal-conservative lines. A

March 26-April 3, 1977 poll by Decision Making Information found that an overwhelming 70 percent of those who called themselves "liberal" were in favor of superiority along with 80 percent of those who called themselves "moderate" and 86 percent of those who called themselves "conservative."

Why is this solid majority view ignored while the United States continues unilaterally to cut back its defenses? The single most important reason is that the minority of Americans who favor unilateral disarmament are well organized and the majority who favor military superiority are not.

(Continued on page 36)



Disarmament Group Working For A New Foreign & Military Policy

A Disarmament Action Guide published by the Coalition for a New Foreign and Military Policy, which describes their aim as "stopping the arms race," lists the following organizations as members of the Disarmament Working Group:

American Friends Service Committee
Americans for Democratic Action
Business Executives Move for New National Priorities
Church of the Brethren, Washington Office
Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Department of Church in Society
Friends Committee on National Legislation
Inter-University Committee to Stop Funding War and Militarism
Jesuit Conference, Office of Social Ministries
Mennonite Central Committee
National Council of Churches Network
SANE
Union of American Hebrew Congregations
United Church of Christ, Office for Church and Society
United Methodist Church, Board of Church and Society, Division of World Peace
United Presbyterian Church, U.S.A. Washington Office
Women's International League for Peace and Freedom
Women Strike for Peace
World Federalists Association/USA
American Ethical Union
Another Mother for Peace
Disarm Education Fund
Fellowship of Reconciliation
Institute for Policy Studies
Militarism and Disarmament Project
Institute for World Order
New Directions
United Auto Workers
World Conference on Religion and Peace
World Without War Council

The Wonderful World of *Fiber Optics*

Tiny glass tubes are starting to play a revolutionary role in communications, medicine and national security.



A Bell Labs researcher checks the process for making the glass fibers. The lightguides have high tensile strength

By WARREN H. SPENCER

A PERSON WHO doesn't spend every working day with computers, hold a degree in engineering or rank as an expert in physics, probably never heard of fiber optics. Yet these tiny glass tubes, about the diameter of human hairs, soon may revolutionize enterprises ranging from medicine to the military. Mated to see-all, know-all computers, they also may have the potential to trigger the fabled Brave New World with the force of an onrushing locomotive.

In its most elementary form, the principle of fiber optics has been around since the early 1870's. That's when researchers discovered that specially sheathed glass tubing could transport light from one point to another with virtually no loss of intensity, and at lightning speeds. The sheathing, equivalent to a mirror wrapping around the optic itself, seals the light beam in, allowing transmission over considerable distances and around corners without

fall-off. The 19th century, however, had no general role for what were considered little more than elongated lanterns, and research flagged. Then, in the 1950's, fiber optic investigation revived. With the development of light sources including miniature lasers and LED's (Light Emitting Diodes such as those used to produce the numerals in pocket calculators and digital timepieces), fiber optics began to grow in importance. Now these wiry glass rods are worming their way into everyday life around the world.

The Japanese, masters of miniaturization technology, are approaching perhaps the most sophisticated (and, in some ways, alarming) test ever conducted with fiber optics. An entire model city, Higashi Ikoma,

Warren H. Spencer is a freelance writer, specializing in scientific and medical subjects.

some 350 miles west of Tokyo, is being "wired" as part of a three-year, \$17 million test project which draws heavily on computer technology and fiber optics. Dubbed HI-OVIS (Higashi Ikoma Optical Video Information System), the project links 300 subscribing homes to central computer installations via special controllers, keyboards and standard television receivers.

"The main objective of this project is to explore an ideal information transmission system for a modern society where there exists a high density of information storage and transfer," said Dr. Masahiro Kawahata, project leader and managing director of the Visual Information System Development Association in Japan. Translated, that means fiber optics and computers are being used to request a wide variety of information, then respond to those requests.

In the HI-OVIS project, Japanese householders literally welcome the world into their living rooms. By simply punching the correct combination of letters into the computer, they can do their shopping, take high-school and college-level courses, pay electric, gas and telephone bills or read the daily newspaper. At the push of a few keys, special TV and FM radio broadcasts can be summoned up, and subscribing homes are tied directly to master fire and burglar alarm systems. At the slightest change in environment, sophisticated computers can dispatch police or firefighters, then supply homeowners with information on what to do until help arrives. On the surface, such would seem a utopian society. Still, there are some ominous implications.

HI-OVIS's fiber optics allow subscribers to shop for and purchase merchandise via television without leaving home. Travel, restaurant and theater reservations are at their fingertips, and all payment is made without the purchaser ever seeing cash. Computers handle such technicalities, simply deducting the appropriate amount from bank accounts. Such capability requires a considerable amount of data. Consequently, financial records—and other

ARTHUR D. LITTLE, INC.



Half-inch cables containing 24 glass fiber lightguides are being evaluated in Chicago for a Bell transmission system

BELL SYSTEMS PHOTO

highly personal information—is available to anyone who can query the computer. HI-OVIS could be the portent of a mass invasion of privacy. Shades of George Orwell's 1984 Big Brother emerge, too, when it is learned that utilities such as gas and electricity can be controlled from outside the home. In emergencies, such as the natural gas shortage which ravaged the northeastern United States during the winter of 1976-77, residential heating and electrical service conceivably could be cut back without individual authorization. Such capacity places awesome power in the hands of a select few.

The Higashi Ikoma field trial is experimental only in the sense of evaluating the performance of the system and determining modifications necessary to place it in full-fledged operation. Ultimately, Japan may well become the world's first "wired" nation through fiber optics.

In our own country, the city of Columbus, OH through the use of a form of two-way cable television linked to a set of computers is experimenting with something along this same line of in-house service.

There, Qube, a futuristic cable sys-

tem provided by Warner Communications, scans each subscribing house every six or seven seconds to take shopping orders, provide burglar and fire protection and check gas and water meters. In the process, however, it also records what every subscribing household is watching and buying and how each household votes in a poll, thus causing critics to worry about the effect of such advances on personal privacy.

While these glass strands have their frightening aspects, they also

add to man's security. Fiber optic circuitry is intrinsic in sophisticated military aircraft still on the drawing boards. A spokesman for Arthur D. Little, Inc., a Cambridge, MA research, development and consulting firm with extensive experience in the field, says that these lightweight conductors will mean increased efficiency and lower cost.

"In military avionics, the replacement of copper wire by optical fiber could increase the useful load of the aircraft by nearly 1,000 pounds, or reduce its total weight by the same amount," states a Little Co. research report. "Each pound saved is valued at about \$1,000 over the life of the aircraft."

That boils down to a savings to the American taxpayer of \$1 million for each plane.

Copper wire long has been energy transmission's workhorse. Worldwide copper reserves are dwindling, however, and cost is spiraling. Sheer economics of supply and demand dictate alternatives such as optical fiber. Too, there is an ecological factor. Mining copper necessitates earth stripping techniques. Glass, on the other hand, is a byproduct of sand, an abundant commodity around the globe. Theoretically, deserts could be turned into gold mines as silica particles are converted into "wire" for an energy-hungry population.

The positive aspects of converting sand into glass are emphasized in a recent rash of telephone advertisements.

"We expect to have fiber optic systems in the telephone network for general use in the early 1980's," according to M. I. Schwartz, head of the Exploratory Media Transmission Department at Bell Telephone Laboratories in Norcross, GA. "Today, we have a fiber optic installation
(Continued on page 62)

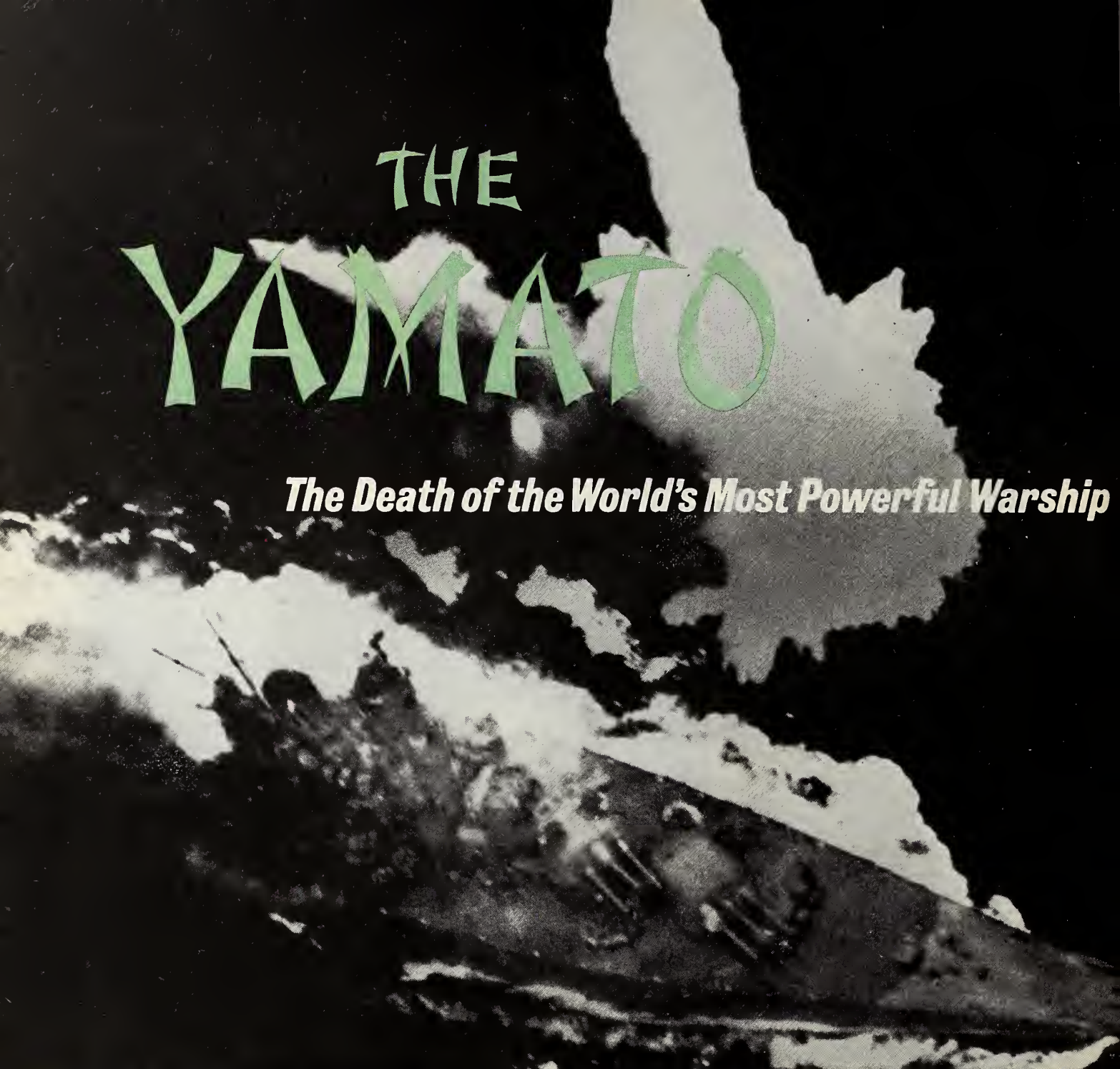


ARTHUR D. LITTLE, INC.

In Japan an entire model city is being "wired" in a test involving fiber optics. This is a control center

THE YAMATO

The Death of the World's Most Powerful Warship



OFFICIAL U.S. NAVY PHOTOGRAPHS

By MARK SUFRIN

The Yamato was a supership, bigger, faster and more heavily armed than any dreadnought that ever sailed the seas. The pride of the Imperial Japanese Navy, she bore a sacred name. The legend said that when the gods separated the land from the waters, the first soil they shaped was the ancient province of Yamato, the original name of Japan.

IT TOOK the United States Navy more than three years to trap the supership, unaware that the Japanese High Command kept her slip-

ping with maddening elusiveness in and out of bases much of the time, waiting for a great final battle to take the wraps off. But the Yamato's existence alone was a threat. Even land forces were fearful that she might escape observation and bear fast over the horizon to loose her shattering gunfire.

From early 1942 there were stray bits of intelligence that the enemy had put something really fearful on

Mark Sufrin is a free lancer who writes on military and other topics, as well as fiction and books for children.

the sea. The decisive battles passed—Coral Sea, Midway, Philippine Sea, Leyte Gulf—and Yamato's legend grew in every wardroom: She was a ghost ship . . . a rubber and cork decoy . . . a floating Shinto temple . . . a propaganda hoax . . . a seaborne geisha house . . . camouflaged as an island . . . too powerful for even a task force. To pilots she became an obsession, a magnificent prize worth any risk.

Her statistics were gargantuan. She was 863 feet long, carried a crew of 2,767, and combat-loaded displaced 72,809 tons—20,000 more than the *Missouri*, the largest U.S.

battleship. Her main battery consisted of nine 18.1-inch guns in triple turrets that alone weighed as much as a large destroyer. Each cannon was 70 feet long and with its breech mechanism weighed 182 tons. They threw a projectile—including fuzed antiaircraft shells—weighing 3,220 pounds as compared to 2,700 for the *Missouri's* 16-inchers, and had a maximum range of 22½ miles at a flight time a little over 1¾ minutes. Her secondary batteries were equally staggering: eight 14-inchers, fourteen 6-inchers, eight 5-inchers, twenty 25-automatic cannon and more than 150 machine guns.

The engine rooms were protected by 16½-inch armor plate, with 25 inches on the turret facings. Four turbine engines developed 150,000 horsepower and, despite the great weight, drove her at a maximum speed of 27.5 knots, with a standard cruising speed of 25 knots. The ratio of speed to weight was attained by electrical welding and a unique hull design that featured a gigantic bulbous bow to reduce the hull resistance. Yet the *Yamato* was a singularly beautiful ship, with a graceful sheer to her flush deck, unbroken from stem to stern, and a streamlined mast and stack. Nazi pocket battleships were supposed to be supreme: they could outgun anything faster and outrun anything stronger. But the *Yamato* could do it all—meet any ship under any condition of battle.

The London Naval Treaty of 1934 severely limited Japan's seapower. When it lapsed, the Imperial Navy, anxious to offset its numerical inferiority as quickly as possible, decided to build superships that would dominate the seas. The *Yamato's* keel was laid in 1937 and she was launched nine days before Pearl Harbor. A sister ship, the *Musashi*, was completed in August 1942. Destined as a third behemoth, the *Shinano* was converted to an aircraft carrier after the Battle of Midway while



Blasted by U.S. Navy planes, the supership *Yamato* burned and sank

still under construction. Despite the presence of the *Musashi*, it was always the *Yamato* that fevered the imagination of the U.S. Pacific Fleet.

HASIRAJIMA ANCHORAGE,
HIROSHIMA BAY IN THE
WESTERN INLAND SEA . . . 0900
. . . 27 MAY 1942

The *Yamato* lay moored to a red buoy, underwater cables to shore allowing instant communication with Tokyo. Gathered around the flagship were 68 warships of the combined fleet, the greatest concentration of naval strength since the war began. Torpedo nets surrounded the seven battleships (a lesson gleaned from Pearl Harbor) and all anti-submarine stations were alerted. The massive armada swung at anchor, each vessel riding low in the water with full combat load.

The force was girded for a crucial battle, the *Yamato* to be committed for the first time. At 1014 the flagship's ensign was hoisted. Then a flag that gave the tensely awaited order rose and fluttered: SORTIE

AS SCHEDULED. The fleet got underway, heading out to seize Midway Island, 2,500 miles distant, the "sentry for Hawaii." Japanese naval intelligence figured Col. James Doolittle's Mitchell bombers came from Midway. It had to be taken. But before any invasion, the American fleet was to be drawn out and destroyed, the violent dream of Japanese naval strategists for years.

On June 4, 1942, the first wave of Zero fighters, Kate torpedo bombers and Val dive bombers roared from the carrier decks at 0420 to hit Midway, 240 miles distant. Most of the battle was crowded into the next two days, and by dawn of the 7th it was over, a disaster for the Imperial Navy, its first defeat since loss of a battle to Koreans in 1592. Five ships were sunk, including four first-line carriers, the *Akagi*, *Kaga*, *Soryu*, *Hiryu*, six badly damaged, and 332 planes lost with Japan's best pilots. It was the turning point of the war.

The *Yamato* saw no action. It was a fight in which aircraft did all the

(Continued on page 44)



Planned to outrun and outgun any ship afloat, the supership was also singularly beautiful



PICTORIAL PARADE, INC.

The great game of poker as played by celebrities you may know

The Great American Card Game

Poker has been called The President's Game—it is far more than that

By JANET CAZES

H. L. Hunt, the American oil tycoon, was usually reticent about his fabulous career, but he needed little prodding if the topic was his poker skill. Interviewed at an impromptu news conference a few years before his death, Hunt answered questions relating to world conditions and his vast interests casually and laconically. He sparkled, however, when one of the newsmen, who had learned of his poker triumphs in earlier years, asked if he still played. Characteristically, the crusty old billionaire shot from the hip. "I gave it up because the thrill was gone, the game no longer an irresistible challenge," Hunt replied, a tinge of regret in his

Janet Cazes is a former editor of weekly newspapers in Louisiana now writing free-lance articles.



PICTORIAL PARADE, INC.

tone. "The fact is, son, I just flat ran out of worthy opponents."

Others whose self-appraisal of their round-table ability may have equaled Hunt's are sometimes encountered in the annals of poker but generally there is more a tendency to indirection and subtlety than forthrightness. Douglas MacArthur's poker reputation was in the shadow of his military fame but nevertheless his prowess was not completely unheralded. Intriguing accounts occasionally surfaced of his rewarding sessions with the military and diplomatic elite of other countries when on foreign duty. The General was inclined to deprecate the stories and the implication they conveyed of his poker talent. He went so far as to acknowledge that he was taught by his grandfather, whom he described as a player of superlative quality.

When Cordell Hull, President Franklin D. Roosevelt's Secretary of State, examined the page proofs of his biography he paused abruptly at the statement: "While an army officer early in his career, Captain Hull was the best poker player in his company." Hull reflected a bit, then changed the word "company" to "regiment." Charles C. Tillinghast, Jr., who some time back was credited with the turnabout of the mammoth Trans World Airlines from deficit to profit, modestly accepted the plaudits for his accomplishment while stressing the merits of valued associates. On one occasion, however, when he was complimented on his poker skill and assured that he belonged in the front rank of top-flight players, Tillinghast filed no demurrer.

It has to be considered significant that many of this country's great leaders in statecraft, military operations, commerce and industry were poker devotees. Poker actually has been called the "Presidents' Game." An authority on poker in 1896 had this to say: "The great American game has always had wonderful attractions for statesmen, and other of our great leaders and administrative heads of government. This situation has long been noticed and recognized in the fullest manner by those of us who are perceptive. The national capital could well be called the birthplace of poker, as it was here that the gradual evolution from 'brag' and 'post and pair' took place, and it is doubtless from this fact that poker acquired its status as the national game. It is stated that all the Presidents since Martin Van Buren, with the single exception of Hayes, have been known to "take a hand."

In modern times the interest of Presidents in poker has continued, with few breaks in the chain. Hard-



UPI

President Eisenhower placed the game second only to golf

ing and Eisenhower placed the game second only to golf in their leisure time activities. Even while taking the heat in the Teapot Dome scandal, Harding occasionally indulged in his two favorite pastimes. Eisenhower honed his poker talent in Army post games during lengthy tours of duty prior to World War II. After the Presidency he sometimes played poker with his old Kansas cronies. On one such occasion, having assured Mamie that he would be home no later than midnight, he missed the deadline by a couple of hours. Boldly, he resisted Mrs. Eisenhower's several past midnight telephone calls—as a career soldier accustomed to peril he was not wanting in the fortitude required to face an irritated spouse. Any poker player, unless completely craven, would readily understand Ike's position. The game was some notches above penny ante, the action fast and furious, and when midnight came Ike was hooked, so he stayed until he got even.

President Teddy Roosevelt was not known as a poker devotee but he was ably represented by his daughter, Mrs. Alice Longworth. In her autobiography, "Crowded Hours," she relates among other poker game incidents a bizarre episode of which the central figure was "Uncle Joe" Cannon, Speaker of the House and the most famous and colorful of all Capitol Hill poker greats. When Alice told her father that she was to be among the guests that evening at the home of John Dwight, Republican whip of the House, and that there was to be a poker game with the celebrated Uncle Joe as a player, Roosevelt gave her a bit of advice. "Be very careful not to sit between Cannon and a spittoon," he warned.

When all was in readiness to get the game started, Mrs. Dwight was taken aback when Cannon, who had glanced sharply about the room, somewhat petulantly requested a spittoon. It just happened that the Dwights did not have spittoons among their conveniences, as at that period their use was almost wholly confined to the Capitol, trains and hotel lobbies. Uncle Joe uneasily shifted the huge wad of tobacco he had placed in his mouth and plainly indicated that for him, no spittoon, no poker. This was a crusher for Mrs. Dwight, as it was somewhat less than protocol to offend even unwittingly so powerful an individual as the redoubtable speaker. In despair, she suddenly had an inspiration. When Cannon consented to use it she emptied an umbrella stand and placed it

at his disposal. Alice Longworth later had reason to be happy that she had heeded her father's advice. Uncle Joe's aim was not always perfect.

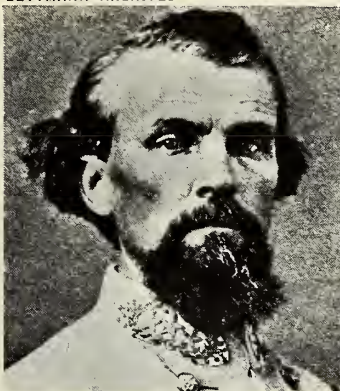
FDR had his own poker coterie, the famous Cuff Links Club. Observers of the period believed it may from time to time have influenced important decisions, because the games were a forum for the kind of informal dialogue that shrinks inhibitions. One of the most speculative situations emanating therefrom was the replacing of John Nance Garner, FDR's vice president for two terms, with Henry Wallace the third time around. The question was: Did Garner bow out or was he pushed? It had become known that the relationship between Garner, a member of the Cuff Links Club, and Roosevelt had cooled, and it also was known that Garner's Presidential aspirations were quite serious. Eventually, the fortunate beneficiary of these rather extraordinary circumstances was Harry Truman, as Wallace was now out. Truman became vice president for FDR's fourth term and upon Roosevelt's death, not long afterwards, he succeeded him. Subsequently, Truman was elected for a full term in a stunning upset over Thomas E. Dewey. The pollsters and the shrewdest political analysts didn't think he would make it, due to the caliber of his opponent. There also were other important reasons, including the fact that some Truman critics assailed his oft repeated statement that he liked to associate with the

lision occurred. The pot that they contended for contained, as one writer of the period put it, "a magnificent pyramid of white, blue, red and yellow chips." The setting was the Boar's Nest, an elite private club in suburban Washington. The other players, and a few spectators, watched fascinated as the two raised and re-raised before the showdown in the historic draw pot and there was no surprise when each showed a powerful hand. However, Garner's four fours beat Cannon's ace full. The latter, chagrined because he had needled Garner throughout the playing of the pot as he had felt certain of winning, saved face by saying, after Garner blandly asked if four fours was enough, "Sir, any man who can do that honestly—honestly, mind you—has my profound admiration."

A critical situation faced by Garner precipitated a subsequent poker confrontation with Cannon. Garner desperately wanted to have an important amendment to a pending bill printed on an emergency basis, and Speaker Cannon's authorization was required. Only a few hours remained so Garner hurried by taxicab to Cannon's residence on Vermont Avenue, instructing the driver to wait. Cannon was home, but a poker game was in progress. The Speaker suggested that Garner sit in and Garner complied, no doubt with mixed feelings. Refusal may have resulted in Cannon's indifference and on the other hand time was a crucial factor. Garner played for a couple of hours and

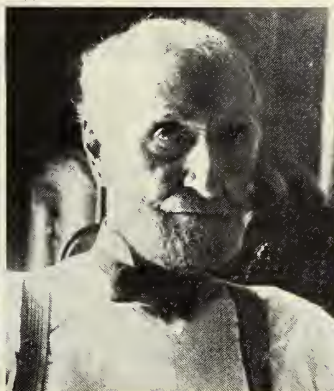
To these famous Americans, poker was not a game played for fun.

BETTMANN ARCHIVES



Gen. Nathan B. Forrest

UPI



Uncle Joe Cannon

UPI



John Nance Garner

kind of men who played poker.

Garner and Uncle Joe Cannon once collided head-on in a poker game. Garner was a freshman congressman from Texas who had come to the national capital preceded by his reputation in his native state as a poker great, and Cannon was the Speaker of the House when the col-

lision occurred. The pot that they contended for contained, as one writer of the period put it, "a magnificent pyramid of white, blue, red and yellow chips." The setting was the Boar's Nest, an elite private club in suburban Washington. The other players, and a few spectators, watched fascinated as the two raised and re-raised before the showdown in the historic draw pot and there was no surprise when each showed a powerful hand. However, Garner's four fours beat Cannon's ace full. The latter, chagrined because he had needled Garner throughout the playing of the pot as he had felt certain of winning, saved face by saying, after Garner blandly asked if four fours was enough, "Sir, any man who can do that honestly—honestly, mind you—has my profound admiration."

(Continued on page 54)



Ernest Brace spent three and a half years in bamboo cages in the jungle before his transfer to the Hanoi prison

Messages From The Next Cell

*Two POW's, close friends in a Hanoi prison,
met for the first time at the White House.*

By ERNEST C. BRACE

UNDER THE glaring lights of a circus tent set up on the lawn of the White House, I met John Sidney McCain III face to face for the first time. President Richard Nixon had invited the returned POWs of the Vietnam War to dinner.

It was May 24, 1973. A little over four years previously I had met John under harsh circumstances. We had been confined in adjacent cells at the camp we prisoners called the "Plantation" in Hanoi, North Vietnam.

John was in solitary because he refused to cooperate with the Vietnamese. His father was Admiral John Sidney McCain, Commander in Chief, Naval Forces Europe, and his grandfather had been an admiral during WWII. Because of his family,

John was considered a valuable pawn by the Vietnamese. John did not know it for several months, but during his captivity his father was to become Commander in Chief, Pacific, an even more important position relating to John's imprisonment.

I was in solitary because I was a civilian pilot, suspected of being with the CIA, and I had escaped from my captors three times over the years while in jungle camps near Dien Bien Phu. I'd been a contract pilot, flying US AID supplies to pro-government troops operating in what was acknowledged to be an enemy controlled area.

*This is an excerpt from a book
being written by the author who is
now living in Connecticut.*

Three and one-half years in damp, thatched bamboo cages in the jungle had left me in poor health. Because of my escape attempts, I spent from April 1966 until October 1968 in stocks and ropes. I had been captured May 21, 1965 in Laos. When they took me to Hanoi in October 1968 I could not walk.

I had not seen or heard an American since my capture. I had no idea of the progress of the war. On the road to Hanoi, I observed road work to restore bomb damage, and what appeared to be normal daytime traffic. I didn't know that Johnson had gone to "limited bombing." I thought the war was over, and I was being taken to Hanoi for release.

The interrogator at the prison in Hanoi told me that the guards were preparing a room for me soon after we arrived at the camp. He would not comment on the war situation. I had visions of a hotel room.

I was carried blindfolded across a large open space, and then dumped rudely on the ground. I heard a lock snap open. What sounded like a wooden bar scraped against metal. A door banged open. I was lifted over something and dropped. It felt like a concrete floor. Someone stepped down alongside of me and jerked my blindfold off.

I was blinded by a bare electric light bulb hanging from the ceiling. I looked up at one of the cruelest faces I had seen on a Vietnamese. He kicked me in the thigh and motioned towards a wide board set up on two small sawhorses. I pulled myself over to the bedboard and managed to get up on the thing after almost knocking it over. The guard made motions that I was to remove my clothes. Another guard entered and started inspecting my body. He painted between my fingers and toes with iodine. Then he took a needle from his bag, attached a syringe, and gave me a shot of vitamin B.

There was a black bucket in the corner of the room. From the motions of the guard I assumed it was meant to be used for my body functions. The concrete floor around the bucket was stained from years of use and bad aim. A mosquito net hung from nails driven into concrete grout between bricks. A bricked-over door separated my cell from what had been an adjoining room. I had been dropped in over a windowsill.

The guards left, slamming the heavy louvered windows closed, then dropping the bar in place and snapping the lock shut. I was in my new home.

I spread the blanket they had

given me on the board. My few extra clothes became my pillow. It had been an exciting day. I had no problem going right to sleep.

I awoke to the sound of my bar being taken off the window. "Nasty," the mental nickname I'd given the guard, was back with a jug of water. It was starting to get light outside. Suddenly I heard what sounded like someone beating a piece of iron with a hammer. It started slowly and increased in cadence to a rapid crescendo and finished with a couple of solid whacks.

The guard pointed to his ear and indicated that when I heard that noise I was to get up and do some exercises. I couldn't even stand without leaning on something. He wanted me to set my bucket outside the window. I indicated that I hadn't used it yet. "Nasty" left me the jug and a chunk of bread loaf.

I had been told not to sit on the bedboard. Also, there had been dire threats indicated if I were to scratch or knock on the walls. Sitting on the floor with my back to the wall I was more comfortable than I had been for years.

I had been sitting for some time dreaming of home, when I became aware that I could hear American music off in the distance. The music stopped and was followed by an Oriental girl's voice. I couldn't make out the words, but it sounded like English.

The gong sounded, more softly this time, and I wondered if I should exercise. While I was thinking about this I heard a noise at my window. A guard was rapping his knuckles against the louvers saying "Sleep,

sleep." I figured I was to take a nap.

I had no sooner laid down when I heard a tapping on the wall. It was the old "SHAVE AND A HAIRCUT" signal among prisoners, but without the "TWO BITS." I smiled and thought "That's nice, must be an American next door." A moment later the tapping was repeated. I eased off the bed and worked my way around to where the tapping was coming from. The next time he tapped "SHAVE AND A HAIRCUT" I came right back with the "TWO BITS." A rapid series of tapping started. I retreated thinking I had been tricked.

The tapping ceased and then came the "SHAVE AND A HAIRCUT" again. Whoever he was, he was persistent. After a period of silence a long, slow series of tapping started. I was confused. I started counting and then realized I should be saying the alphabet. I got the word "WALL" on the last series. I did nothing. I was getting sweaty and nervous. It started again: A B C D -----

The message was clear. "PUT EAR TO WALL." I worked my way back to where the tapping was coming from. Pressing my ear to the wall I heard a voice say "IF YOU HEAR ME BUDDY, KNOCK THREE TIMES." I knocked three times. What had seemed a bored voice became so excited he could hardly talk. It was clearly an American on the other side of the wall.

"I'VE BEEN TRYING TO RAISE YOU ALL DAY. ARE YOU A NEW PRISONER? DO YOU KNOW THE TAP CODE? I GUESS I'D BETTER TELL YOU HOW TO ANSWER." My eyes were

watering. I was smiling so hard my face hurt. This was the first American voice I had heard since leaving home so many years ago. "GIVE ME ONE TAP FOR NO, TWO TAPS FOR YES, AND THREE TAPS IF YOU DON'T KNOW." I gave two taps. "GOOD BOY." He said "MY NAME IS JOHN MCCAIN. I'VE BEEN A PRISONER OVER A YEAR, HAVE YOU BEEN A PRISONER LONG?" I gave two taps, "Yes." We then went through something like the game "Twenty Questions." He found out what year I had been captured, how old I was, and that I had been a Marine Corps pilot in Korea, but was flying as a civilian during this war.

He then told me how he was talking to me. "TAKE YOUR TIN CUP, WRAP YOUR SHIRT AROUND IT, LEAVE PLENTY OF CLOTH AROUND THE MOUTH, AND PRESS THE CUP FIRMLY AGAINST THE WALL. DO YOU WANT TO TRY IT NOW?" One tap "No." I didn't have a cup. "DO YOU WANT TO COMMUNICATE?" Two taps "Yes." "DO YOU HAVE A CUP?" One tap "No."

He then explained the tap code. The "shave and a haircut" was the come up signal. The "two bits" meant go ahead. Divide the alphabet into five groups of five letters each. Drop the letter "K." The key letters of each group are A-F-L-Q-V. The letter "A" being the first letter in the first group its tap would be 1-1. The letter "B," first group, second letter, 1-2. The letter "R," fourth group, second letter, 4-2. The name "McCain," 3-2, 1-3, 1-3, 1-1, 2-4, 3-3. I was now able to tap my name to John. Several days later I was given a cup and communications were wide open.

Over the next few weeks John was to bring me back to the real world. He caught me up on the war situation; explained the politics of the upcoming elections; told me jokes, and stories of his life that he probably had never told anyone before. The wall was like a confessional. The person on the other side existed in voice only. I wasn't to see John McCain for over a year. Then it was only a furtive glance through my louveres while he was in the wash court one day.

The music and voice I had heard my first day in the room had been the "Voice of Vietnam." John had a speaker in his room, I did not. Every morning after the voice signed off John would come up on the wall and

(Continued on page 70)



Ernest Brace, in dark sweater to the right of uniformed officer, leaves Hanoi's Gia Lam airport with other POW's being returned

WORLD WAR 1: THE FINAL CURTAIN



U. S. ARMY

By MAURY DELMAN

TWO RAILWAY cars occupied a siding in the Campiegne forest on a misty dawn on November 11, 1918. In one, German delegates had struggled through the night to haggle for lenient armistice terms. There would be no opportunity for the delegates to equivocate on the 11:00 a.m. deadline. Allied Supreme Commander Marshal Foch was determined to end the fighting immediately. After four grim years the advantage lay with the Allies. Pressured by civil discontent at home, mutiny of the High Seas Fleet and relentless attack from the Allies, Matthias Erzberger, leader of the German delegation, dejectedly signed the armistice. The act was far more than a suspension of hostilities as a prelude to peace negotiations—it amounted to a surrender.

The terms called for Germany's withdrawal from all occupied terri-

tory including Alsace and Lorraine, the retirement of all armies to the east bank of the Rhine, and the surrender of specific amounts of military equipment to guarantee inability to continue the war.

Officially the war ended the eleventh hour of November 1918. Fighting continued beyond the last hour however, and it required several orders from high-ranking sources to finally still the shelling. The price of global war involving 30 countries was staggering. Of the 65 million mobilized forces, more than 8,500,000 died, some 21 million were wounded and nearly 8 million were listed as prisoners or missing. Despite America's late entry into the conflict, we paid with more than 320,000 casualties.

Maury Delman, a frequent contributor to this magazine, has recently moved to Florida.

The indirect cost of World War I totaled nearly \$152 billion while the gross direct cost to all belligerents amounted to more than \$208 billion.

To get command of an independent American army, Gen. John J. Pershing had to agree to undertake two offensives conducted within 23 days in sectors 40 miles apart. First the doughboys had to reduce the St. Mihiel salient and then initiate an offensive in the Meuse-Argonne sector driving on to Sedan.

The value of St. Mihiel was twofold. It was the key to two railway lines and the Briey iron mines. Also, victory at St. Mihiel by the Americans would further heighten the Allies' morale while depressing the Germans.

St. Mihiel was a formidable salient. Pershing mustered 16 divisions for the battle. In all, the Allies employed 665,000 soldiers for combat. Some 3,200 guns, mostly French but

fired by American crews, were assembled. Aerial support of 1,481 planes was in the command of Gen. William "Billy" Mitchell. The first American Tank Corps under Col. George S. Patton, Jr., would receive its baptism by fire using 267 French tanks. Ingenious use of two-handed, barbed-wire clippers and rolls of chicken wire 18 feet in length resolved the question of what to do about enemy barbed wire not cleared by artillery—simple tools that broke the back of years of stalemated war in the trenches.

The fate of St. Mihiel was expeditiously sealed. In a well-executed offensive worked out by Col. George C. Marshall, chief planner for the operation, the doughboys captured some 16,500 prisoners and 443 guns. American casualties were comparatively low—some 7,000.

Military historians have long debated the war's closing timetable. Pershing had spent a year preparing for a siege of Metz, and German confusion and disorder following St. Mihiel invited exploitation. "The temptation was very great," Pershing admitted. But his solemn promise to Foch to attack in the Argonne decreed that no such siege should take place.

The Meuse-Argonne offensive was to be the largest and most difficult operation to that time attempted by U.S. troops. The Germans had four years to prepare a defense network unequalled in military history. Doughboy assault troops would have to cross an open no-man's land before confronting four defensive lines 10 to 20 miles deep. Beyond man-made works of steel and concrete for defense, nature had furnished the Germans every assistance. Steep ravines, trackless forests and the heights of Montfauçon and Cunel enabled the enemy to peer down on assaulting troops to make them sitting ducks. The logistics of readying 800,000 men and equipment was exacerbated by limited time and lack of experience. Incredibly, coordination was effective enough to enable jump-off on schedule. The assault's objective was to cut the German rail line at Mezières and Aulnoye and cause the Germans to retire inside their frontier before winter.

On September 26 at 5:30 a.m. the 1st Army launched its attack, preceded by three hours of bombardment from 2,700 guns. Some 800 Allies' planes provided cover from overhead as artillery barrage led the way on the ground. Preregistered enemy artillery fire combined with terrain difficulty soon cut the Allies' numerical superiority from 8-1 to even.

Every foot gained exacted high payments in men and equipment. Communications broke down, troops lost their way, artillery and supplies foundered on the roads. Unlike the St. Mihiel engagement the foe had been instructed to hold their defenses at any cost.

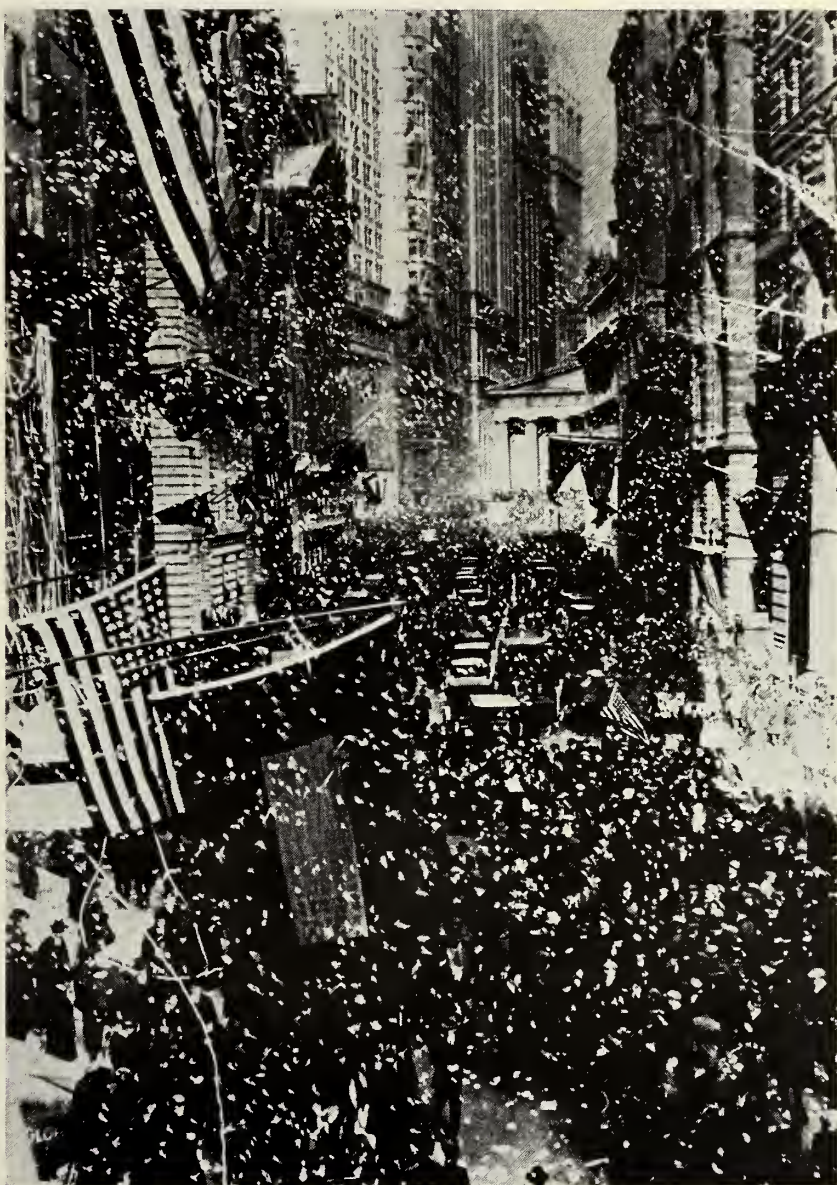
By the end of September, U.S. troops were so exhausted from trying to take Montfauçon and fight the enemy in the Argonne forest that Pershing had to regroup his forces before continuing. During the pause the Germans called up reinforcements to add to the Americans' woes.

As with all the other engagements, the Meuse-Argonne spawned heroes who would be awarded the pale blue ribbon with 13 stars—the Medal of Honor. In the Argonne, the "lost battalion" of the 77th Division, which was neither lost nor a battalion, survived five days of encirclement

under fire without food and with little water, refusing to surrender. When a relief force finally rescued them, only 194 survivors from the original 600 made it back to friendly lines. Cpl. Alvin York, a Tennessee backwoodsman and sharpshooter leading a patrol, killed 15 of the enemy, then held an enemy major at pistol point to flush out 132 more, forcing them to surrender. His feat won him a sergeant's stripes and the Medal of Honor.

On October 4th the offensive resumed with the Americans fighting doggedly to take the Argonne forest and beyond to the third line of German defense. A 2nd Army was created by Pershing to deal with flanking fire from the Meuse. Even with this reinforcement the Germans made the doughboys pay dearly for every inch gained. Ludendorff so valued

(Continued on page 42)



All around the world jubilant crowds celebrated the end of the war. This was lower Manhattan, festooned with traditional ticker tape

A Day in the Woods

By Gen. FRANK L. HOWLEY

IT WAS a cook-in at Shirley's apartment. Jerry and a blonde were there. Shirley's favorite these days, a young doctor, debated euthanasia. There was also another guy and his disagreeable wife, who threw out barbed comments. However, it was a good cook-in, thanks to Scotland. The meat was venison which I had supplied.

"Why do you shoot deer?" asked the tortoise shell, 22-year-old aspirant for the medical profession.

"Cause he's a primitive," said Shirley.

"Maybe he likes to kill things," said the disagreeable wife.

"Oh, hell," I said. "I don't think too much about it. It's not just a matter of shooting the deer. It does taste good, though. But I'm entirely in keeping with the Old Testament—that you don't shoot something unless you want to eat it."

However, the question gave me some doubts. Why do I go stand in the cold in one spot for hours, just in the hope that a buck deer will come close enough to me so I will be able to draw a bead on his shoulder before he smells me, sees me, or hears me and takes off at a speed that makes a snap shot most unlikely to succeed?

Well, hunting is a lot of things. It's meeting eight friends whom I seldom see except during this two-day or three-day junket in the woods of Pennsylvania each year. It's sitting around swapping yarns at the fireplace after the day's hunting; listening to Harold, the banker from Summit, talking about how he shoots grouse in Scotland; hearing Pete's stories of the fishing fleets and how they are spotting off the coast of Venezuela catching fish, which they grind into meal for cattle, and about Russian trawlers, that are part of the Russian espionage system; hearing David tell his lugubrious and

Frank L. Howley is a man of many careers, including education, writing and military. He served in the Army from 1940 to 1949.



amusing stories about a certain state's justice, where the suicide of a Negro was announced though he had 12 bullets in him.

But above all, standing for five hours behind a tree is exciting self-discipline. When I stand there, I seldom move so much as a leg, though my eyes continuously rove back and forth across the woods. My feet are cold, my war-injured back aches, my bursitis bothers me, water runs off the end of my nose, and yet I stand there, look, listen and think how nice it will be when the pain is over. The sound of a squirrel gets my attention. I watch the manner in which he picks up one acorn, throws it away, while he keeps another and carries it off. Undoubtedly he weighs the acorn, and he throws away the light one because experience has taught him that there is no meat in that one, whereas the heavy one is worth cracking open because there will be something in it to eat.

A red-headed woodpecker knocks on a tree nearby, using his hammer head to stir up the worms in the rotten wood. When they stir he hears them, and digs to get the worms to eat. I reflect on the fact that I'm glad that I don't have to make a living hammering my head against a piece of wood. It would be terrible after some of the nights which I

spend carousing with companions.

The forest catches my attention because the trees are ash gray, the sky is blue gray. Everything is gray except the floor of the forest, which is brown until a beam of sunshine turns it to gold. Somewhere behind me there is a click of a breaking twig. Owl-like, I revolve my head and see a deer. If I make any quick motion, the deer will be off, flashing its white flag in the air and giving off a scent of danger and fear which will warn any other deer coming that way. So I watch carefully and make no motion. The deer watches me. It's a doe, so she is safe. I wait until the doe becomes bored looking at me. This may take five minutes. Then she ambles off peacefully, leaving me to continue my contemplation of nature.

Back at the cabin before a roaring fire, after two shots of sour-mash bourbon, I will probably account for the doe's behavior by saying that she looked into my eyes and found me a kindly man who was not going to do her harm. On the other hand, she definitely did wink at me, which would suggest that perhaps she mistook me for a four-legged buck instead of a two-legged liar.

So, why do I go hunting? I don't know why, but I know what I like and I like to go hunting. ■

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Veterans Newsletter



PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT WINS 1978 NATIONAL SERVICE TROPHY...At the American Legion's 60th National Convention in New Orleans it was announced that the Department of Pennsylvania had been named recipient of the 1978 National Service Trophy, awarded annually to the department which "excels" in service work" for veterans and their dependents...Pennsylvania was picked from a field of 8 departments submitting entries...Connecticut, Indiana, Minnesota, Nebraska, Ohio, Oklahoma and Tennessee were the other entrants...Congratulations to the Department of Pennsylvania and its many service officers at all levels for an outstanding job.

VA HOSPITAL IN AMARILLO, TX INVOKES SPECIAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR UNEXPECTED PATIENT...Recently faced with a surprise request for treatment by an alleged veteran knocking...or rather rattling...at the door, Hospital Director Leon Edman sought assistance from other patients in dealing with the matter...While one patient, who

handle...Just as everything else, the snakes are bigger in Texas.

VETERANS WIN ON JOB PREFERENCE...Recent congressional actions on President Carter's Civil Service Reform proposals indicate that campaigns by the Legion and other veterans' organizations contributed greatly to the defeat of provisions which would have removed the preference points awarded veterans in hiring for federal jobs...The House passed the reform measure after removing the vet-preference section entirely...A Senate version passed the same way, though an amendment sponsored by Sen. Alan Cranston (D-CA) which would have strengthened preference given disabled vets in federal hiring was not included...The legislation is now in a Senate-House Conference Committee to hammer out a compromise measure which will then be returned to both houses for final consideration...Observers feel that the final bill will not result in any changes to the present veterans preference system.



Samuel T. Dunn and "friend"



Unidentified "new" patient

wished not to be identified, held the "guest" with a mop handle, patient Samuel T. Dunn reached behind the 6-foot rattler's head and gingerly lifted him...or her...into a plastic bag...Abbreviated staff study of the unique needs of the new admission resulted in a post-hospitalization plan of residence with the local humane society...Dunn, a WW 2 vet, knows all about these things, having grown up in the Texas Pan-

A-TEST CORRECTION...Earlier in this column we reported on response to the call for contact with personnel who participated in above-ground nuclear tests between 1945 and 1962...The Defense Nuclear Agency was trying to locate as many as possible of the almost 300,000 uniformed men who had been exposed to radiation during that series of test explosions...Well, somehow things got transposed and the toll-free phone number was incorrect...That number should have been Area Code 800, 638-8300, not 368-8300 as printed...Apologies to readers, and the folks at the other number...An additional piece of information, that toll-free number is not available when calling from the metropolitan Washington, D.C. area or the state of Maryland.

NEW CHIEF MEDICAL DIRECTOR FOR VA...Veterans Administrator Max Cleland recently announced that Dr. James C. Crutcher, a veteran of both WW 2 and Korea, has been named as the Chief Medical Director, Veterans Administration...An Internist, Dr. Crutcher comes to the VA's top medical post after 26 years at the VA Hospital in Atlanta, GA where he served in a variety of supervisory posts...The Miami, FL native served as a Navy Pharmacist Mate in WW 2 and returned to service in Korea in the Army Medical Corps...Crutcher is presently a Brig. Gen. in the Army Reserve Medical Corps.

If you're 55 or over 11 million people welcome you to "The Club."

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AARP's 11 million members provide the buying power that gets you prescriptions and over-the-counter medicine at discount prices. Also they're mailed to your home, postage paid.

Health and Auto Insurance.

Unfortunately, medicare may not cover all your needs. Therefore, one of AARP's most important benefits is eligibility for a Group Health Insurance Plan. Also available is a skilled Nursing Facility and Home Nursing Care Plan, plus you'll receive information about auto insurance designed especially for people 55 and over.



Job Opportunities

Being retired doesn't mean you can't work. Mature Temps, an AARP recommended service in many major cities may be able to help you find part-time or temporary employment. This special service like many of AARP's is free.

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At Local AARP Chapters you can find ways to help your community and yourself through Defensive Driving Courses, Consumer Information Desk and The Tax Aide Program.

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One membership makes both member and spouse eligible for all AARP benefits and privileges, however, only one may vote. Please allow 30 days for delivery of your membership kit.

Legion Priorities for Vets Listed



Shown here at the Legion's reception for members of Congress are (left to right) Robert F. (Sam) Murphy, House Speaker Thomas P. (Tip) O'Neill Jr., National Cdr. John M. (Jack) Carey and Albert D. Brown Jr. The latter is chairman of the Legislative Commission, of which Murphy is a member

Commander Takes Plan To Congress

Congress has been presented with a six-point program on veterans affairs that The American Legion will push for during the 1978-79 year.

National Cdr. John M. (Jack) Carey, in his first appearance on Capitol Hill as the Legion's new leader, testified before both the House and Senate Veterans Affairs committee in September to outline the Legion's major concerns in the area of veterans affairs.

He said the Legion's priorities involved:

- Pension reform.
- The Veterans Administration budget.
- VA medical care programs.
- Education and training programs for Vietnam veterans.
- A pension program for World War I veterans.
- Veterans employment.

Early in his testimony, Carey gave a verbal salute to the chairmen of the two committees, Sen. Alan Cranston (D-CA) and Rep. Ray Roberts (D-TX), for their "championship of veterans rights."

Both, he said, "have made clear to those who are not especially sympathetic to veterans problems that they will work against any efforts to curtail programs that Congress has provided for veterans."

On need-based reforms, Carey said that the Legion supported legislation now pending, although there are slight differences in the House and Senate versions of the bill, to provide added security to veterans and their dependents and survivors.

"Those of us who represent the veteran constituency do not fail to recognize that these open attacks on veterans benefits always begin to manifest themselves in a time of peace," he testified. "These outcries for economy in veterans programs are never heard in time of war."

Carey hit hard on the subject of an adequate fiscal 1979 budget to fund the Veterans Administration budget.

Warning against another Adminis-

Legion Wins Fight to Save Preference for Veterans

Veterans' preference in federal employment and job retention is alive and well, thanks, in large part, to the all-out effort by The American Legion to protect this right for 26,500,000 American veterans.

Both the House and Senate have stripped from the Carter Administration's civil service reform legislation a proposal to dilute preference for veterans in the federal service.

The Administration got most of what it wanted in the reform bill but ran into a stonewall in Congress where veterans' preference was concerned.

Able-bodied veterans will continue to receive a five-point preference in federal hiring and in the retention of their federal jobs. The 10-point preference for disabled veterans was not at issue.

National Cdr. John M. (Jack) Carey said the Legion is "very pleased" with Congress' rejection of the bid to abolish life-time preference for veterans in order to provide more federal jobs for minorities and women.

"We are grateful to those dedicated Congressmen who defeated this latest attempt to deprive our country's veterans of the slight advantage provided by the Veterans' Preference Act in getting and retaining government jobs."

Even the *Washington Post*, certainly no friend of veterans organizations, conceded defeat on preference

with a headline: "Veterans Defeat Reformers."

The Post had editorialized repeatedly in support of the Administration drive to dilute veterans' preference.

Congress also approved an amendment to the Civil Service reform package introduced by Sen. Alan Cranston (D-CA) to curb the so-called practice of "double-dipping" in the federal service.

This was aimed at military officers who retire after 20 years and then get a job with the federal government, drawing both a pension and federal pay.

The Cranston amendment will remove the five-point preference for able-bodied veterans who retire from the military service with the rank of major or above.

Another amendment sponsored by Sen. John Heinz II (R-PA) and approved by Congress would limit to \$47,500 the total amount in federal salary and pension a military retiree could draw each year.

The Veterans' Preference Act was enacted in 1944 by Congress with full support of the Legion.

The federal Civil Service reform measure will split the commission into two bodies: the Office of Personnel Management and the Merit System Protections Board.

When the measure becomes law it will make unprecedented changes in the 100-year-old federal civil service system.

NEWS for LEGIONNAIRES

tration attempt to reduce the VA budget, Carey testified:

"The President is talking economy. He has publicly stated that economy will be achieved in a variety of categories of government spending, including, and he used these words, in the field of veterans programs.

"May I say that all of the members of The American Legion are taxpayers, and we are as anxious for economy in government as is the President, or anyone else. Our concern, however, is that economy must not be achieved at the expense of the nation's veterans."

He added:

"With all this in mind, The American Legion is not going to be silent when cutbacks are proposed in veterans programs, in the name of economy. In our judgment, there are plenty of places in the federal budget where economy can be practiced before an effort is made to cut back on veterans programs."

Carey then turned to the VA's medical program, stating:

"The development through the years of the VA system as the largest and finest medical system in the world today is the cherished achievement of The American Legion, because we have made a significant contribution to that accomplishment.

"We prize the VA medical care program for veterans, and we are determined to defend it.

"But I do want to make clear that we of the Legion believe that a successful defense of the VA system is absolutely essential to be a successful defense of all other veterans benefit programs."

He warned that the Legion perceives a visible danger to the health care for veterans in the concept of national health insurance.

Turning to Vietnam veterans, Carey told the committees that the younger generation of veterans is well justified in asking the Administration where is the commitment of dollars to back up protestations of concern?

The Commander urged an early priority next year for the development of legislation to provide needed increases in education and training allowances for all programs related to Vietnam veterans.

"It is not fair to the young men and women who are in training under federal programs to cause them to try to continue their education

(Continued on page 38)

College Classmates Reunited



Mrs. John M. Carey shakes hands with a college classmate, Sen. Robert P. Griffin (R-MI), as the National Commander smilingly looks on. Mrs. Carey and Senator Griffin attended Central Michigan University, as did the Commander, who was on Capitol Hill to testify on veterans legislation

Employment Tips For Vietnam Vets and Disabled

Many disabled veterans and Vietnam-era vets are fighting a new battle. A battle for a good job, a good future. And now there is someone fighting alongside the veteran. The Government. The Government's new rights and provisions can help the qualified disabled veteran and Vietnam-era veteran get and keep that job. Veterans can get help with job placement, and promotion.

There are procedures that a veteran must do to insure that he is exercising his rights and that his rights are working for him.

The trick is to know what your rights are and then, to use them. To know what to do and to do it. It takes effort and patience...

If you're a "qualified" disabled vet, or a Vietnam-era vet, "Section 402" of the Vietnam Era Veteran's Readjustment Assistance Act says that:

- Anyone doing business with the Federal Government in a contract of \$10,000 or more must take "Affirmative Action" in employment of qualified disabled and Vietnam-era Veterans. (It's estimated that this affects more than three million businesses and industries.)

- If a veteran feels that he has been discriminated against because of his disability, he can file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Labor for investigation.

- Each Government contractor must list his employment openings with local offices of the State Employment Service according to the law, and

- These local State Employment Service offices must give qualified disabled and Vietnam-era vets priority to the job-openings listed.

New National Cemetery Scheduled for Opening

A limited striking of commemorative bronze, silver and gold coins marking the first dedication of a U.S. National Cemetery in nearly 30 years now are available.

The coins were struck by the Veterans Administration to commemorate the opening of the Riverside, CA National Cemetery, scheduled to be dedicated November 11, 1978.

For information on the coins, contact the Riverside National Cemetery Veterans Day Committee, 4261 Main Street, Riverside, CA 92501.

Legion Post Was 'Summit Central'

By REX C. KRAMER
American Legion News Service

As the populace of Thurmont, a tranquil city of 3,500 nestled in the foothills of Maryland's Catoctin Mountains were going about their usual business, Russell L. (Lee) Fisher, Adjutant of Edwin C. Creeger Post 168 found himself putting in 18 to 20 hour days at the Post Home, playing host to between 200 and 500 reporters, commentators and technicians who had come from all over the world to cover the Mideast Summit talks at nearby Camp David, the Presidential retreat.

Neither Post 168 nor the town of Thurmont are unfamiliar with the White House Press Corps. The largest available building in the city, the Post Home has served as the nerve center for White House press office operations for at least four administrations, channeling information to a waiting world while Presidents sought relaxation at the mountaintop hideaway.

So that the necessary communication links can be established quickly, a permanent telephone junction was installed and, when broadcast networks heard that the Post was erecting a tall tower atop the building to improve television reception, they chipped in for construction costs so that they could install a permanent microwave antenna on the tower.

Things were a little different this time. Normally, the news emanating from Camp David is pretty run-of-



Post 168 Adjutant Lee Fisher, left, discusses media arrangements with White House Press Secretary Jody Powell

the mill. A birthday in the President's family or the like. However, the presence of President Carter, Egyptian President Anwar Sadat and Israeli Prime Minister Menachim Begin, together at Carter's invitation to attempt a breakthrough in stalled Middle East peace negotiations, brought newsmen and women from almost every nation in the free world to Thurmont. The hushed remote-



President Carter's Press Secretary Jody Powell briefs reporters in front of the Post Banner at the Thurmont meeting

ness of Camp David was sharply contrasted at Post 168 by shouted questions, clacking typewriters and teletype machines, clicking camera shutters, and the occasional squawking of White House and Secret Service walkie-talkies.

In addition to the high-ranking diplomatic delegations some two miles away at the well-protected summit site, the ranks of reporters included some very famous faces familiar to millions of television news viewers. And telephones! No less than 160 in the main hall alone in various colors. Another 10 or so in the downstairs meeting room in which the White House press office had set up housekeeping, complete to a screened-off area for Press Secretary Jody Powell. On the main floor, ladies from the Legion Auxiliary provided hot coffee. And the Post's Club Room overflowed with men and women wearing plastic credentials and speaking in a dozen tongues. During lulls, which were long and frequent, technicians and photographers passed the time in the street and on the front lawn, tossing frisbees or playing catch with a red, white and blue football.

Amid this confusion, Post Adjutant Lee Fisher—assisted at times by his son Russell, Jr., a Son of The American Legion, and five volunteer women including Mrs. Fisher, of Auxiliary Unit 168—kept the Post open 24 hours a day, ensured that the hungry crowd could find enough food for lunch or dinner, maintained as much continuity to regular Post activities as possible, and cleaned up

(Continued on page 28)

NEWS for LEGIONNAIRES



Reporters and technicians wait in Post 168's hall for the next White House briefing during Camp David summit



While more than a dozen television and film cameras are inside, a lone camera awaits developments outside Post 168

John Burnett Named Month's Legionnaire

In today's world, the words involvement and commitment seem to mean less than they did. Not so in the case of this Legionnaire. John J. Burnett has demonstrated his willingness to pitch in when a job needs doing, and his comrades of Post 30, Harrington Park, NJ think he exemplifies the qualities to which all Legionnaires aspire.

A veteran of WW2, John Burnett served in the Navy from 1943 to 1946. In addition to his Legion activities, he is also a Lay Lector at his church, where he has regularly led the congregation in the singing of hymns.



John Burnett

Mr. Burnett's contributions to Post 30 are many...too many, in fact, to list them all. He has served as Post Chaplain, Jr. and Sr. Vice Commander and Post Commander. He has chaired the post's Boy's State Program, Safety Essay Contest, and Oratorical Contest. John was also a County Delegate and is presently County Chaplain.

An accomplished vocalist, our November "Legionnaire of the Month" held a recital at a local church which benefited Post 30 community youth programs. He also performs as soloist at County Convention opening ceremonies.

All these considerations more than exceed the qualifications for "Legionnaire of the Month," but even more important perhaps is this assessment by a fellow member of Post 30, "Where many men sit back

A Report on Southern Africa

By Dr. ROBERT P. FOSTER
Chairman, Foreign Relations Commission

Editor's Note: Many Americans are confused about American policy in Africa and where it will lead. Many feel that current policy is tilted toward the Marxist-led revolutionaries. The following report was submitted to the Foreign Relations Commission during the national convention in New Orleans. Dr. Foster led a five-man American Legion fact-finding delegation to southern Africa, including the nations of the Republic of South Africa, Rhodesia, Southwest Africa (Namibia), Transkei, Boputatswana and the Kingdom of Swaziland. Excerpts from the report follow:

It is no exaggeration to say the Legion's delegation saw a wide spectrum of Southern Africa's current profile. We saw examples of the major industries; gold, manganese and aircraft factories. We visited black townships such as Soweto. We went to the front lines, in both Rhodesia and Namibia, and talked to the soldiers, black and white alike, whose artillery and rifles were within plain sight of Communist guns. Some were less than 300 yards away. We saw Rhodesian housewives, loaded pistols strapped to their waists, going grocery shopping in Umtali, Rhodesia. We saw captured weapons from Communist countries such as the Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia.

We were told that new Dodge trucks paid for by U.S. foreign aid money were carrying much of the Communist equipment to the front lines to kill friendly moderate blacks living peacefully on their tribal trust lands. We saw evidence of terrorist massacres as brutal and savage as anything experienced in World War II, Korea or Vietnam. On display boards in Salisbury were captured U.S. weapons such as land mines, hand grenades, M-1s and 75MM recoilless rifles.

These were captured from Communist terrorists coming into Rhodesia from Zambia and Mozambique. Soviet weapons were coming into Southwest Africa from Angola. We talked to captured terrorists and U.S. citizen soldiers fighting under Rhodesia's flag to oppose the Communist enslavement of this friendly but boycotted nation.

South African industrialists showed us their aircraft production lines, where in their words, "We are reinventing the wheel" because U.S. firms are not permitted to sell us aircraft. We talked to black supervisors working in American industries such as Union Carbide, blacks with new homes, new schools and new opportunities, living in sharp contrast to the stories propagated by liberal and left-wing writers and publishers in Western countries.

We saw the happiness, tranquility and peacefulness of black tribal life and we questioned anyone's right to tell them they needed more skyscrapers, concrete and gas burning engines.

Most importantly, we talked to southern Africa's national leaders, former Prime Minister Vorster, and Ian Smith, and their top cabinet officials. All were troubled, frustrated and some were angered by U.S. meddling and the U.S. Government's failure to understand their approach to the self-determination and independence for the homelands. This approach would perpetuate and preserve the ethnic groups, their values, cultures and traditions. Please get off our backs, they asked. And they warned of Soviet-Cuban threats from northward pointing toward South Africa!

RESOLUTION 16: Resolved, by The American Legion in National Convention assembled in New Orleans, Louisiana, August 22-24, 1978, that we be on record as opposing the forces of Marxism and communism in Africa and urge immediate action in demanding the President, the State Department, the Congress, and those participating in Ameri-

(Continued on page 38)

and let someone else take over, Comrade Burnett steps forward (and) takes on any and all responsibilities given to him. He can always be depended upon to give 110 per cent to all projects suggested by the Department or County. Harrington Park Post 30 is proud to have Comrade Burnett as a member as he has brought great recognition to the Post

from the county as well as from the local community."

Now retired, Burnett lives in Harrington Park with his wife Rosemary.

We congratulate him on the accomplishments which have won him such high regard by his fellow Legionnaires, and take pleasure in naming John J. Burnett "Legionnaire of the Month."

HAIL HIALEAH!



WORLD SERIES CHAMPS

NEWS for LEGIONNAIRES

Sullivan-Babcock Post 32, Hialeah, FL surge from the dugout after winning the 1978 American Legion "World Series"

Photos by Kurt E. Smith of the Yakima, WA Herald-Republic and David E. Spaner of ALNS.

Future Stars Shine in Legion Baseball

Memo to the American and National Leagues: If you are looking for the baseball stars of tomorrow, you won't have to look any further than the participants in The American Legion's "World Series" recently completed at Yakima, WA.

There were budding stars galore and some of the finest baseball ever was played by the eight finalists in the national tournament.

Sullivan-Babcock Post 32 of Hialeah, FL won the championship of the 1978 "World Series" by defeating East Springfield, MA 7 to 4 in the double elimination final.

All of the eight teams contending in the championships presented players who could join the more than 400 graduates of American Legion

Box Score

HIALEAH	ab	r	h	bi	E. SP'GFIELD	ab	r	h	bi	
Pacheco, cf	5	0	1	0	Small, cf	4	0	0	0	
Bustabad, ss	4	1	0	0	Cook, 2b	5	0	2	1	
Mesa, 3b	5	2	3	1	Marshall, lf	4	1	0	0	
Jones, 1b	4	1	3	1	Kumiega, p	4	1	2	1	
Castro, c	3	1	1	0	Warner, ss	2	0	0	0	
Arce, 2b	5	2	0	1	Rheault, c	4	0	0	0	
Gil, rf	5	0	1	2	Grindley, 1b	4	1	3	1	
Fernandez, lf	3	0	1	1	Ashe, 3b	4	0	0	0	
Agras, lf	0	0	0	0	McMahon, rf	3	1	1	1	
Estrada, p	5	0	1	1						
Totals	39	7	11	7	Totals	34	4	8	4	
Hialeah, Fla						114	000	100	—7	
East Springfield, Mass.						000	100	210	—4	
E—Mesa, Jones, Warner 2, Kimiega, Ashe, DP—McMahon-Grindley, Bustabad-Jones, Arce-Gil-Bustabad, McMahon-Cook, LOB—Hialeah 12, East Springfield 9, 2B—McMahon, HR—Mesa, Kumiega, SF—Fernandez, 5B—Gil 3, Pacheco 3, Jones 2, Agras.										
					ip	h	r	er	bb	so
Estrada (W, 16-1)					9	8	4	3	5	4
Kumiega (L, 11-3)					9	11	7	5	6	6
U—Chilton, Anderson, Tucker, Mueller, Motyka and Mitchell. T—2:30. A—2,352.										

famed Baseball program in 1926 and the program has gone full speed ever since. It is one of the most successful programs for young Americans in the United States.

The Post 32 club, with 13 of the 15 players of Cuban ancestry, completed a five-game sweep in the tourney, bringing the national Legion title back to the East Coast for the first time in 13 years. South Bend, IN was the 1977 titlist.

Hialeah jumped to an early 6 to 0 lead over East Springfield, rapping out 11 hits and stealing nine bases en route to their championship victory.

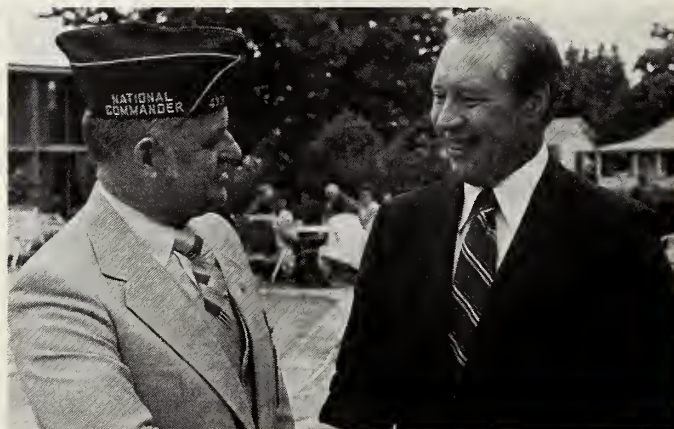
"It's a wonderful feeling," commented Hialeah Coach Lou Reilly after receiving the championship trophy.

baseball who have played in the major leagues' annual All-Star classic.

The American Legion started its



They yelled, screamed and rooted for their teams at Yakima. Here a pert young lady bangs soft drink cans filled with pebbles in support of her favorite team from Corvallis, OR



National Cdr. John M. (Jack) Carey welcomes former major league pitching great Bob Feller to the Legion championships at Yakima. Feller is a graduate of American Legion baseball

Husband and Wife Elected to Lead Legion Activities in Mississippi



Lois and Victor Broom have been elected by the Department of Mississippi to lead Legion activities for the 1978-79 year

Mr. and Mrs. Victor Broom have made American Legion history in Mississippi.

For the first time ever, a husband and wife team will lead Legion and Auxiliary activities during 1978-79 in the Mississippi Department.

Victor Broom has been elected to serve as Mississippi Department Commander for the year, while his wife, Lois, will lead the Auxiliary during the same period.

Both have been active in Legion

and Auxiliary work on the local, state and national level.

Vic earned his B.S. Degree in agricultural education at Mississippi State and is county executive director of ASCS-USDA in Itawamba County with 33 years of federal service.

Lois attended Itawamba Junior College. She is a member of the Arts Council and assistant Sunday school teacher at Trinity Baptist Church.

They have four children and eight grandchildren.

phy. "These guys are just great. Without a doubt, it is the best team we've ever had."

Reilly has coached Hialeah for nine years. Two of his players received individual awards: First baseman Ross Jones was selected Legion Player of the Year and Third Baseman Ivan Mesa won the Big Stick Award for the most total bases in the Series.

Both Mesa and Jones had a big hand in the title victory—Mesa hitting a home run and two singles and scoring two runs, and Jones collecting three hits and driving in a run. Mesa, 18, is an eighth-round draft choice of the White Sox.

Mesa just missed the Runs-Batted-In Award by one. But he was philosophical about it, saying:

"I thought I had it, especially after hitting that home run, but winning the Series makes up for it. That's the biggest thrill of all."

East Springfield Coach Howie Burns, his voice cracking with emotion, had nothing but praise for the two finalists.

"I'm very proud that my team got to the finals," he said. "When you get this far, there are no losers."

East Springfield pitcher-outfielder John Small was presented with the Sportsmanship Award. Other awards: Doug Palmer of New Ulm, MN for the best batting average—.669, and to Caldwell, NJ pitcher Glen Rose for the most strikeouts—15.

The eight finalists were: Region 1 Champions—East Springfield, MA Post 420, Region 2 Champions—Caldwell, NJ Post 185, Region 3 Champions—Sullivan-Babcock Post 32, Hialeah, FL, Region 4 Champions—South Houston, TX Post 490, Region 5 Champions—Allen Park, MI Post 409, Region 6 Champions—Ben J. Seifert Post 132, New Ulm, MN, Region 7 Champions—Corvallis, OR Post 11, and Region 8 Champions—Santa Monica, CA Bay Cities Post 123.

10 Million Home Loans

Since the GI Bill program was established in 1944, the VA has guaranteed nearly 10 million home loans.

NEWS for LEGIONNAIRES

VA To Give Award In Teague's Name

The Veterans Administration has announced that an annual award will be given to recognize agency employees for outstanding achievements in the rehabilitation of war-wounded veterans.

The award has been named for Texas Rep. Olin E. Teague, who served for 18 years as chairman of the House Veterans Affairs Committee.

Teague, an infantry battalion commander who suffered multiple wounds and was decorated 11 times for gallantry during World War II, was chosen because he was one of the most decorated combat-disabled veterans of World War II.

The former Congressman earlier became the one person outside of the VA to receive the agency's Exceptional Service Award, VA's highest commendation.

Representative Teague announced his retirement from Congress at the end of the current session.

American Legion Life Insurance Month Ending Aug. 31, 1978

The following is an actual case from the files of The American Legion Life Insurance Plan:

A 48-year old Legionnaire died of a heart attack. He paid a total of \$108.00 for this insurance; his widow was awarded \$6,600.

Benefits Paid January 1, 1978—	
August 31, 1978	\$ 1,829,507.00
Benefits Paid Since April 1958	\$26,872,171.00
Basic Units In Force (Number)	194,951.5
New Applications Approved	
Since January 1, 1978	2,007
New Applications Declined	942
New Applications Suspended	1,008
(Applicants failed to return Health Form)	

"Effective January 1, 1978 the 10% 'across the board' increase will be extended to December 31, 1978"

The American Legion Life Insurance is an official program of the American Legion, adopted by the National Executive Committee, 1958. It is decreasing term insurance, issued on application to paid-up members of The American Legion subject to approval based on health and employment statement. Effective Jan. 1, 1976, death benefits range from \$60,000 (6 units through age 29, 25 in Ohio) in decreasing steps of \$125 (½ unit at age 75 or over). Previously, maximum was 4 units. This protection is available throughout life, as long as the annual premium is paid, the insured remains a member of The American Legion, and the Plan stays in effect. Available up to six units at a flat rate of \$24 per unit a year on a calendar year basis, pro-rated during the first year at \$2 a month per unit for insurance approved after January 1. Underwritten by two commercial life insurance companies, the Occidental Life Insurance Co. of California and United States Life Insurance Co. in the City of New York. American Legion Life Insurance and Trust Fund is managed by trustees operating under the laws of Missouri. No other insurance may use the full words "American Legion." Administered by The American Legion Life Insurance Division, P.O. Box 5609, Chicago, Illinois 60680, to which write for further details.

NEWS for LEGIONNAIRES

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24)

Summit Central

whenever time allowed.

Understandably, the arrangements necessary for the Press Corps meant that some Post activities had to be rescheduled.

Adjutant Fisher is the sole coordinator for all of this. A retired government worker, he is the only officer who could devote the time. Lee is a past County and District Commander. In fact, his Legion work took him to the 60th National Convention in New Orleans and he returned to Thurmont with about four days to prepare the Post Home before the onslaught.

Lee is very proud of Post 168, named for a Thurmont native who was killed in Britain while serving as a Navy flier in WW 2, and his pride is quite justified. The Post has over 600 members which is about 44% of the eligible veterans in the area. Post Cdr. Clarence Favorite points out that the Post was a 4-Star post in both the county and district membership drives last year and their membership boasts a high representation among Vietnam-era vets.

The Post's involvement in community affairs is almost without limit. Many civic and church organizations use the Post Home as a meeting place, and the Post's Child Welfare program is a dynamic year-round effort. In addition, the newly-renovated Post donated a large part of the cost of a new community medical center which recently opened across the street.

When asked how the Press Corps viewed the little town overlooking the rolling countryside of central Maryland, one well known TV commentator summed it up like this. "It sure beats Plains."

Seagrams Winners

A highlight of the national convention was the drawing for the two Ford cars offered by Seagrams Distillers and the Seagrams Posts of The American Legion during the Musical Spectacular. Winners were Aaron Dalke of Bismarck, ND Post 1 and Albert T. Mracek of Springfield, IL Post 3. Dalke was present to receive his Ford. Seagrams has sponsored the drawing for 32 consecutive years. The winning numbers were drawn by Mrs. Alvin Moltzen of North Dakota, outgoing Auxiliary president.



The Air Force won the Armed Forces Chess Tournament held in the Hall of Flags of the Legion's Washington Office. Shown (left to right) are SSgt Richard A. Spitzer, Myrtle Beach AFB, SC, Allen Kaufman, Executive Director, American Chess Foundation; SRA Charles A. Nowe, Griffis AFB, NY, Brig. General Keith D. McCartney, Deputy Director, Personnel, for Plans and Policy, Headquarters U.S. Air Force; Captain Robert M. Bond, Patrick AFB, FL, Darrel A. Sandman, Recreation Specialist, Randolph AFB, TX, A1C Stephen Rolston, Scott AFB, IL, AMN Kurt Eschbach, Blytheville AFB, AR, and SSgt Bobby G. Moore, Hahn AFB, Germany

POSTS IN ACTION



At recent dedication ceremonies for the new **William H. Nauss Post 143** post home in New Cumberland, PA, Cumberland County Commission Vice Chairman Jacob Myers, left, presents Post Commander Larry Potter, center, and Pennsylvania Dept. Cdr. Eugene Eichelberger, right, with a new flag.

The original post home became too expensive to operate a few years ago, and the membership decided to sell it. The post then moved to a storefront and later purchased a building across the street. The entire new post home was refurbished through "self-help" using all donated labor.



Among officials being sworn in during the **Dept. of Pennsylvania's 60th State Convention** are, 3rd and 4th from left, Dr. Almo J. Sebastianelli, re-elected to a 2-year term as NEC-

man, and William Gormley, newly-elected Alternate NECman. Gormley, of Philadelphia, succeeds Stephen J. Mikosky who was elected Dept. Cdr. Dr. Sebastianelli is from Jessup, PA.

Simultaneous 60ths

In the same year that The American Legion held its 60th Annual National Convention in New Orleans, Legionnaire Francis S. Quinn, member of **Post 284, Colonial Heights, VA** and his wife Alicia celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary. A group of family and friends feted the couple in honor of their marital bliss, and longevity. Among the celebrants was Francis Quinn, Jr., Public Relations Officer for Post 284.



As a special Memorial Day project, **Loyal Post 175, Loyal, WI** located previously unmarked veterans gravesites in their 5 area cemeteries, and arranged for government markers on each in time for the Memorial Day Ceremonies. Project committee members, left to right, J. R. Thomas and Chester M. Smith display one of the bronze markers.

TAPS

The Taps Notice mentions, whenever possible, those Legionnaires who have held high National or Department Office in the Legion, US Government, or other forms of national prominence.

Seabees Founder Dies

Admiral Benjamin Moreel, who founded the Navy's famed "Seabee" construction battalions, died of cancer recently.

Moreel was appointed head of the Navy's Civil Engineer Corps in 1937



U. S. NAVY PHOTO

Admiral Ben Moreel in a WW2 photo

by then President Franklin D. Roosevelt. His "Seabees" became world renown for their fighting spirit and accomplishments as builders during WW 2, erecting bridges, laying out airfields, post facilities and roads in record time under adverse conditions.

The only officer of the CEC to be appointed to four-star rank, Moreel was interred in the Arlington National Cemetery. He was 85 at the time of his death.

Albert M. Roberts, 63, died in August in Washington, D.C. Roberts, who twice served as Cdr. of Oxon Hill, MD Post No. 258, was elected Prince George's County Cdr. in 1958.

Dennis Spillane, past cdr. of Killarney, Ireland Post No. 2, died in June in Tralee County, Kerry, Ireland.

George J. Sabel, 84, died in July in Honolulu, HA; he was a charter member of the Legion in Paris. After WWI, Sabel worked to institute the practice of naming prominent posts

after soldiers who had been killed in action.

The Rev. Clarence G. Hall, 84, formerly of Ludlow, IL, died June 17 in Magnolia Manor, a Methodist retirement home in Americus, Ga. Reverend Hall was Illinois State Chaplain of The American Legion in 1938.

OUTFIT REUNIONS

Reunion will be held in month indicated. For particulars write person whose address is given. Notices accepted on official forms only. For form send stamped, addressed return envelope to O. R. Form, American Legion Magazine, P.O. Box 1055, 700 Pennsylvania St., Indianapolis, IN 46206. Notices should be received at least five months before scheduled reunion. No written letter necessary to get form.

Earliest submission favored when volume of requests is too great to print all.

ARMY

836th Ord Depot Co.—(Jan) E. Malter, 1701 Vandalla, Apt. 346, Collinsville, IL 62234
3614th QM Trk Regt—(Jan) Dewey Isom, 503 S. Fifth St., Cambridge City, IN 47327

AIR

460th Bmb Gp, 762nd Sqdn, Ord Sec—(Jan) Earl Miller, 1320 E. Kercher St., Miamisburg, OH 45342

LIFE MEMBERSHIPS

The award of a life membership to a Legionnaire by a Post is a testimonial by those who know best that such a member has served The American Legion well.

Below are listed some of the previously unlisted life membership Post awards that have been reported to the editors. They are arranged by States or Departments.

Robert Markham (1978) Post 316, Atlantic Beach, FL

Karrah Mitchell, John Lieberman (both 1978) Post 321, Cooper City, FL

W. V. Beckstead, Vernon Benson, Charles Billmeyer, William Brothers, George Garbett, Z. F. George (all 1977) Post 4, Pocattello, ID

William Mork (1978) Post 473, Chicago, IL

Charles Lansford, Samuel Hook, Glen McClish, Robert Dielman (all 1976) Robert Ginder, Richard Freidenberger (both 1978) Post 202, Butler, IN

Billy C. Pride (1978) Post 289, Clay, KY

Marcel Gionet, Rudolph Kurtia (both 1978) Post 183, Shirley, MA

Robert Steman, Lyman Ireland (both 1978) Post 53, Hillsdale, MI

Paul Anderson, Donald Bailey, Harry Boucher, Paul Brady, John Carroll (all 1978) Post 170, Three Rivers, MI

Fred Stoll, Rev. A. E. Thompson, Ed Tom-sche, George Weyer, Joseph M. Johnson (all 1978) Post 89, Blue Earth, MN

James Magee (1974) George Heupel, Neptune Mercantini, Ralph Stone (all 1977) Raymond F. Clark (1978) Post 26, Bordentown, NJ

Lucien Feldeisen, James McGrail (both 1978) Post 430, Cologne, NJ

William Shepard, James Wyckoff (both 1976) William Lotz, Howard McDonald, Charles Roe, Alonzo Waddington (all 1978) Post 463, Ovid, NY

John Clingempeel, Michael Requena (both 1978) Post 797, Long Island City, NY

Rossie Barfoot, Lee Best, Naylor Lee, C. T. McGugan, Lewis Gavin (all 1972) Post 59, Dunn, NC

Laurence Magrath, Harold Milde, George Shoemaker, Walter Wall (all 1978) Post 945, New York, NY

James Pierce, C. A. Saint, Eddie Stringfield, Edward Sylvest, J. W. Sylvest (all 1978) Post 113, Franklinton, LA

John Konawalik, George Scoble, James Shafer (all 1978) Post 346, East Stroudsburg, PA

Jack Adler, Andrew Nazarenko, Morgan Randall, James Scandale (all 1978) Post 579, Moscow, PA

J. E. McClenny, M. S. Wiman, Ray Hall (all 1977) Robert Gallagher, Edd Miller (both 1978) Post 521, Pasadena, TX

Arion Johnson (1972) David Harper, William Haulsee, William Kirios, Hiram Mustain, George Tsoukatos (all 1978) Post 325, Danville, VA

Jack Miller, Thomas Malloy (both 1978) Post 15, Parkersburg, WV

Life Memberships are accepted for publication only on an official form, which we provide. Reports received only from Commander, Adjutant or Finance Officer of Post which awarded the life membership.

They may get form by sending stamped, self-addressed return envelope to:

"L. M. Form American Legion Magazine, P.O. Box 1055, 700 Pennsylvania St., Indianapolis, IN 46206."

On a corner of the return envelope write the number of names you wish to report. No written letter necessary to get forms.

VA's Q & A Corner

Following are representative questions answered daily by Veterans Administration counselors:

Q. I am a widow receiving nonservice-connected pension benefits. If I remarry, will these benefits be discontinued?

A. Yes. However, if you have children, they can continue to receive benefits. Contact your nearest VA office for applications for each child.

Q. If a veteran dies in a VA facility, can his survivor request contract burial service?

A. Except for unclaimed remains, contract burials were ended July 1, 1963.

Q. I received an honorable discharge after completing a two-year enlistment. Am I eligible for a headstone or gravemarker even though I had no wartime service?

A. A headstone or gravemarker is available for any deceased veteran of wartime or peacetime service (other than for training) who was discharged under conditions other than dishonorable. Reservists who die while on duty may also be eligible.

Full information may be obtained by contacting any VA office.

COMRADES IN DISTRESS

Readers who can help these veterans are urged to do so. Usually a statement is needed in support of a VA claim.

Notices are run only at the request of American Legion Service Officers representing claimants, using Search for Witness Forms available only from State Legion Service Officers. Please contact CID #—, The American Legion Magazine, P.O. Box 1055, 700 Pennsylvania St., Indianapolis, IN 46206.

Landing Craft Flotilla 13, USS 1X 212—Need to hear from Charles Wm. Lininger's shipmates in the Peleliu Island area, in the Palau Group, within the Carolines, February 2, 1945. Contact CID 530.

USS Mississippi (EAG 128)—Need information from comrades who recall John Ouellette being hit by a falling hatch cover, sustaining head and arm injuries and ear damage, while stationed at Portsmouth, VA, June, 1951. Contact CID 532.

99th Inf Div, Basic Training—Need to hear from anyone remembering James Rivers, who hurt his back while carrying 155 mm ammunition, while stationed at Fort Bragg, NC, 1944. Contact CID 533.

279th Inf, Med Corps assigned to Co C and 45th Div, OK Nat'l Guard—Need witnesses to Charles O'Kain's attempt to aid a lieutenant during which he was blown off the hillside by artillery fire, resulting in injuries to face and head, while stationed at Charwon Valley, Poikae Village, Korea, April 2, 1952. Contact CID 534.

El Toro, CA MCB—Need information concerning incident involving Eugene Skov, after which he sustained a broken nose and developed a nervous condition, while stationed at MABS-37—MAG 37, Santa Ana, CA, Jan-Feb, 1963. Contact CID 535.

10th Armored Div (WWII)—Seeking comrades who recall Wade Phillip's hospitalization due to bronchial pneumonia, while stationed in Germany, 1944. Contact CID 536.

What is the secret of easter island ?
Who built stonehenge, and why ?
Why did aztec priests offer
human sacrifices to their gods ?

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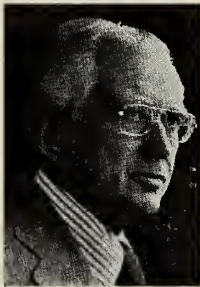
SHOULD THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA BE GIVEN FULL REPRESENTATION?

WHEN PRESIDENT John Adams first moved the national government from Philadelphia to the unfinished Capitol in June 1800, he brought the entire federal bureaucracy with him—a total of 140 people.

Today, Washington, DC is a far cry from that humble beginning. The 700,000 District residents pay more federal taxes than citizens in 14 states. The Capital city has a greater population than 10 other states. These residents are like all other American citizens in every way but one—they are not represented in Congress.

Now Congress is considering ways to remedy the gross inequity and basic unfairness that is part of the daily lives of the citizens of the District of Columbia. I believe the best solution is a Constitutional Amendment to provide full representation for the District in both the House and the Senate.

YES



**Sen. Howard M.
Metzenbaum
(D-OH)**

representation for the District in both the House and the Senate.

The District of Columbia is America's last colony. Congress controls its budget and provides many local services through the federal agencies. Chairmen of the House and Senate committees control everything from the level of the city's operating budget to construction of a new convention center.

Despite this Congressional control over their lives, American citizens living in the District do not have real representation in Congress. Since 1970, the District has had one delegate in the House of Representatives, but he cannot vote. District residents have no elected voice at all in the Senate.

A Constitutional amendment providing full representation in the Senate and House would do no harm to our Constitution. Instead, it would further our ideals of full and fair representation long established by the 15th, 19th, 24th and 26th amendments, as well as by numerous Supreme Court decisions.

Some opponents of Congressional representation for the District have argued that the best solution is to cede the 67 square miles of territory back to Maryland, which originally donated the land. But that argument flies in the face of 200 years of history. The District of Columbia was first established as a special enclave for the federal government. Its needs and services are unique in the nation. It would be improper to place our nation's Capital under the control of a single state.

It is also improper and unfair to leave residents of the nation's Capital—those who live in the shadows of the Washington, Jefferson and Lincoln monuments—as the only American citizens who are not represented in Congress.

By amending the Constitution, we can correct this injustice and once again demonstrate our nation's commitment to equal representation for all.

Howard M. Metzenbaum

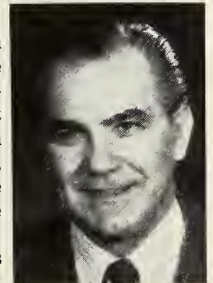
WASHINGTON, DC is the capital of the nation, an area provided for in Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution, belonging to all the people, created as a place where the Congress could be secure in its deliberations, free from local interference and dependence, immune from harassment and political entanglements. The often-raised phrases of "DC, the last colony," and "taxation without representation" are misleading. Washingtonians elect their own school board, city council and mayor; participate in Presidential elections, and have a non-voting delegate in the House of Representatives. According to Tax Foundation, Inc., citizens of the District of Columbia in Fiscal Year 1977 contributed the sum of \$275.9 million toward federal grants and receive in return, \$942.1 million. The federal treasury collected only 29¢ for every dollar it provided the city. Its per capita income is the second highest in the nation, \$8,067, compared with a national average of \$6,399.

The Founding Fathers' insistence on having as the seat of government a place over which the Congress would have exclusive jurisdiction and control was due at least in part to a soldiers' mutiny which threatened the Continental Congress, meeting in Philadelphia, and the failure of that city to provide protection to the members who were forced to flee.

Today, the federal government employs approximately 40 percent of the work force of the City of Washington, and an additional 25 percent work in industries servicing the government. It might be called a "company town" with virtually everyone dependent upon the federal government for his or her livelihood. If full representation in the Congress were granted the city, it would insure the election of representatives sympathetic to the needs and concerns of big government, who would promote the welfare of government agencies and employees. Congressmen from the District would be under no compulsion to consider the needs of any competing interest, such as farmers, miners or manufacturers, because there is no other substantial interest within the city.

Washington today is a city of some 700,000 people, with the news media espousing the viewpoint of city residents and upon which members of the Congress depend as a major source of information. Ten American cities exceed Washington in population. Full representation in the Congress for the City of Washington would not be in the national interest and would inevitably lead to the kinds of pressures that the framers of the Constitution wanted to avoid when they provided for a Federal City. Washington is a city, not a state and under our federal concept of government, there is no basis for electing two senators to represent it.

NO



**Sen. William L.
Scott (R-VA)**

William L. Scott

Editor's Note: Congress has approved a Constitutional amendment giving the District of Columbia voting representation in the Senate and House but it is still subject to ratification by 38 states.

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ABOUT BOOKS

Reading matter that may interest you.

Strategy of Survival, by Brian Crozier. ARLINGTON HOUSE, \$8.95. Whether we realize it or not, we are in a fight to the finish with world Communism, but the author insists we can still win. An important book.

Fields of Fire, by James Webb. PRENTICE-HALL, \$9.95. A novel about a platoon of Marines fighting in Vietnam. The author is a former Marine Captain who was injured in Vietnam.

Technospies, by Ford Rowan. G. P. PUTNAM'S SONS, \$10.95. An exposé of computer technology, how it has been used and abused, and the danger it poses to privacy.

The Simon & Schuster Encyclopedia of World War II, Edited by Thomas Parrish. SIMON & SCHUSTER, \$25.00. Described as "the big book about the biggest war in history" it is just that. There are thousands of entries and almost 750,000 words.

Readers Digest True Stories of Great Escapes. W. W. NORTON, \$12.50. Gripping accounts of men and women who risked their lives to gain freedom.

The Best Thing on TV, by Jonathan Price. VIKING PRESS, \$14.95 cloth, \$7.95 paper. The author says the commercials are best. He may well be right since considerable thought goes into some of them.

The Perfect Game, by Herman Weiskopf. PRENTICE-HALL, \$15.95. All about bowling, America's most popular sport, to make you appreciate it more and play it better.

Where Have All the Voters Gone?, by Everett Carl Ladd, Jr. W. W. NORTON, \$9.95. The author maintains that our political parties are not what they used to be because they have abdicated three vital roles.

Assault From The Sky, by John Weeks. G. P. PUTNAM'S SONS, \$20.00. A history of airborne warfare from its beginnings in the 1920's to guerilla warfare in this decade.

(Continued on page 68)

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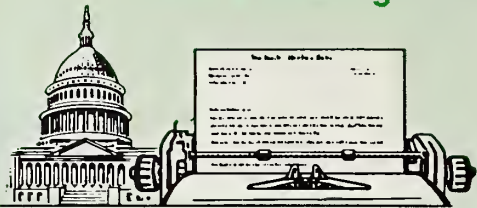
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**MORE WOMEN FLOCK TO WORK FORCE.
CRACKDOWN ON WHITE-COLLAR CRIME.
WATCH OUT FOR HAZARDS IN THE HOME.**

The American work force rose to a record 106 million last year, 3 million more than the year before—and women accounted for six out of 10 of those additional jobs, the Department of Labor reports.

In fact, since World War II the proportion of women working all or part of the year has steadily moved up so that in 1977 more than half of them—56 percent—were in the ranks of the employed. Of the men, 81 percent held a job, a ratio unchanged from last year.

Why are more women entering the work force? Some have to work. Some filled in for the drafted men in World War II and liked the change. Some need the extra earnings to deal with inflation, or to seek a higher standard of living. Some were freed from the kitchen and kids by modern innovations like washing machines and TV dinners. And some felt that a job was the best way to demonstrate their own "women's lib."

Even before the disclosure of widespread corruption within the General Services Administration, the government had started bearing down on white-collar crime.

The public believes, with some justification, that perpetrators of white-collar crimes all too often get away with a judicial slap on the wrist because they are rich and the crime is non-violent. At the same time, those who commit street crimes, associated with violence, are poor and meted harsh punishment.

Deputy Atty. Gen. Benjamin R. Civiletti recently reported to a Congressional subcommittee that white-collar crimes are not a matter of class, and often result in more violent consequences, as in the case of mine safety violations. Civiletti also reported that federally insured banks now lose three times as much from white-collar crime as from armed robberies.

The government is creating teams of specialists to detect and prosecute white-collar crimes involving individuals or corporations, Civiletti said. More convictions have been achieved during the past two years, largely because of increased FBI efforts, he added. More support is expected from Congress.

Your home may be your castle, but it can be a risky place to be in and around, unless you watch your step and take common sense precautions, according to the Consumer Product Safety Commission.

After five years of investigations and regulatory actions, the CPSC, headquartered in Washington, has come up with the following watch-out-for-trouble list of the items causing the most and worst accidents around the household:

Bikes, stairs, footballs, baseballs, playground equipment, power lawnmowers, skates (skateboards and scooters), swimming pools, non-glass tables, and beds, including bunk beds.

Skateboard injuries required emergency hospital treatment for more than 100,000 youngsters last year hurt in falls; toy accidents brought in 44,300 other children. Adults have their own set of trouble spots around the house; installation of CB (citizens band) equipment claimed 123 lives from electric shock.

PEOPLE & QUOTES

NO TIME, NO BRAINS

"There was no conspiracy against me... Those who had the brains to conspire didn't have the time. And those who had the time didn't have the brains." Ex-Presidential aide Midge Costanza.

DON'T SAY IT

"It is very important that we not underrate our strategic capability, either in our own planning or in what we say. If we keep saying we're much weaker than the Russians strategically, they may begin to believe it." Defense Sec'y Harold Brown.

NEW BREED LEADER

"...I believe the proper role of the military is to state their case, and when a decision is made to implement that decision faithfully." Joint Chiefs of Staff Chairman Gen. David Jones.

INFLATION THREAT

"I believe that unless long-term inflation can be brought under control, our social and political systems, which are already under considerable stress, will be in serious jeopardy in the years ahead." James Ferguson, chairman, General Foods.

NO RECESSION

"We will not have a recession next year." President Carter.

NEED INFORMANTS

"I have to say... that the informant is the, with a capital T, the most effective tool in law enforcement..." FBI Director William Webster.

WHY NOT ECONOMICS?

"I can't believe that a course on astronomy beats a course on the economy... We learn about climate in South America—but not competition in North America." J. W. Marriott Jr., president, Marriott Corp.

LAWYER RECALL

"If law-school graduates, like cars, should be recalled for failure to meet commercial standards, the recall rate would be very high on those who go into the courts without substantial added training." Chief Justice Warren Burger.

CUBA BOGEYMAN

"We are continually told today that we have to do this or that, accept this or that unattractive option because if we do not, the Russians will send in the Cubans..." NY Sen. Daniel P. Moynihan.

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The Disarmament Lobby

The anti-defense lobby's unilateral disarmament campaigns have usually been coordinated through coalitions of organizations that cooperate for specific anti-defense goals. This has enabled the unilateral disarmament advocates to have impact beyond their small numbers.

How They Killed The B-1

For example, the National Campaign to Stop the B-1 Bomber was made up of 37 organizations ranging from Common Cause to the War Resisters League. This anti-B-1 coalition had offices in Washington, DC and was organized by the tax-exempt American Friends Service Committee and Clergy and Laity Concerned. It was particularly effective in targeting specific members of Congress for telephone and letter blitzes. A Congressman who was judged to be a swing vote on the B-1 could expect to be on the receiving end of thousands of letters generated by this well-organized and well-funded minority.

The anti-B-1 activists sent out sample letters for their supporters to sign and send to newspaper editors and lawmakers, circulated petitions, and even provided sample resolutions for passage at local meetings of various clubs and organizations. Sample press releases were prepared before every major vote or decision on the B-1 for use in local papers by anti-B-1 organizations.

Each of the organizations which were active in the anti-B-1 campaign would gear its anti-B-1 arguments to the interests of its own members. The Environmental Action Foundation,

for example, claimed that the B-1 would damage the ozone layer, even though the B-1 was designed to fly at low rather than at high altitudes. The National Taxpayers Union, on the other hand, would claim that the B-1 was a wasteful boondoggle.

Several church, labor, and civic groups were active in this campaign even though the members of these groups were not asked for their views on national defense. For example, a very few leaders in the New York-based National Council of Churches or the Washington office of the YWCA made opposition to the B-1 bomber appear greater than it really was by appearing to represent their millions of members.

These few leaders had control of some of the vast resources of their organizations for anti-B-1 lobbying and education efforts. The American Friends Service Committee, for example, has an annual budget of almost \$10 million and the National Council of Churches spends more than \$24 million each year for all of its programs. The total financial resources available to organizations in the "Stop the B-1 Bomber" campaign probably totalled more than \$100 million per year.

While this coalition may have seemed as impressive in numbers of people "represented" as it was in financial power, its views on the B-1 nonetheless were those of a small minority. Reliable polls showed that only 18 percent of the American people were against while 64 percent were in favor of production of the B-1. But due to the well-organized opposition, President Carter and the Congress may have believed that ma-

jority opinion was opposed to the B-1.

Because of the success of the anti-B-1 campaign, the United States will go into the 1980's with more than half of its strategic nuclear power carried in bombers originally designed in the 1940's.

Immediately after the President announced his decision to cancel the B-1, the National Campaign to Stop the B-1 Bomber called for cancellation of the cruise missile which President Carter had endorsed as the alternative weapon system. The leaders of the coalition were not really against the B-1 as such but against any increase in U.S. military power. The B-1 victory merely spurred them on to greater efforts to cut other defense programs.

The unilateral disarmament activists always had other goals in mind. The minutes of a meeting of the anti-B-1 campaign's "Interim National Coordinating Committee" held in New York City in September 1977 revealed that this anti-defense coalition had, in addition to its short-term goal of stopping the B-1, the following long-term goals:

1. Expose and Challenge Military and Corporate Power
2. Promote Peace Conversion
3. Build an Anti-Defense Network

These goals show clearly that the anti-defense lobby is really working for unilateral disarmament and the destruction of what they call the "military-industrial complex." (What we used to call the Arsenal of Democracy.)

This was not the first successful campaign by the anti-defense lobby. (Continued on page 40)

How The Disarmament Lobby Works

Here in abridged form are instructions given to members of the Coalition for a New Foreign and Military Policy, telling them how to work most effectively to disarm the United States:

1. At the very minimum, send your own opinion to Washington.
2. Educate yourself (with Coalition literature).
3. Get in touch with organizations to stop the arms race.
4. Join or start a local committee to stop the arms race.

The instructions point out that letters should go to the President, and "Congresspersons," and phone calls should be made to the White House

and to Senators and Representatives. Phone numbers are given.

Letters to the editor "are a powerful tool for influencing local public opinion," and members are told how to use this medium most effectively.

Instructions explain that efforts should be made to enlist others in a local committee. As they say, "a few people pulling together can change public opinion in an entire community." Like-minded people, they say, may be found in churches, labor unions and in liberal political circles. An interesting note: "When you set up a meeting, have a resource such as a sideshow, to focus the group's attention." The activists are also urged to make use of the telephone to alert members "when there's an urgent call to action."

Members are also urged to stage "a vigil." This is a publicity gimmick that has been used for years but it is still effective. One recommended prop is "a sheet to make a large sign with a slogan that's easy to see." Vigils, they say, "work extremely well in medium and small-sized towns," and the promoters are advised to notify newspapers, radio and TV "because they are always looking for local stories."

Some of the foregoing is excellent advice, even if certain aspects of it, such as the vigils, are by now obvious and corny. As a matter of fact the Coalition's methods are so effective that Legionnaires should consider using some of them to counter what these people are doing to disarm the United States.

A Report On Southern Africa ca's foreign policy change these policies friendly to America's enemies, and support the governments of Rhodesia, South-west Africa and South Africa, such action being considered in the best national interests of the United States.

The Republic of South Africa represents a key country in the Soviet plan to recolonize Africa, under the Soviet sphere of influence. Soviet propaganda makes no secret of its effort to set up a constellation of pro-Soviet Marxist states throughout Africa and pro-Marxist governments have been recently established in Angola and Mozambique and Ethiopia.

The American Legion's policy urges the United States to politically and militarily assist the Republic of South Africa in repulsing the spread of Communist imperialism on the African Continent. It urges military cooperation. It recommends the U.S. Navy reintroduce regular naval maneuvers with the South African navy and fully utilize South African port facilities including the former British naval base at Simonstown. It recom-

mends that the United States Government encourage American investment in the Republic of South Africa to assure continued and expanded American access to vital raw materials including, but not limited to, gold, chromium, iron, vanadium, copper, lead, zinc, cobalt and industrial diamonds. It encourages investment in such fields as agriculture and commerce.

In the field of human rights, The American Legion believes that the Republic of South Africa should be held to no different standards than those applied to any other country in Africa or elsewhere. In summary, The American Legion encourages and supports an urgent nationwide educational program on the increasing importance of the economic, political and military significance of the Republic of South Africa and the national interests of the United States. ■

Vet Population Peaks

U.S. veteran population has apparently peaked just shy of 30,000,000, according to Veterans Administration projection. People leaving armed forces is about equal to deaths among veterans, and the trend is expected to continue.

Commander Takes Plan To Congress

and training with the use of 1977 dollars," Carey said.

Carey told the committees that The American Legion will strongly support legislation to improve the education and training allowances for these veterans.

The Commander then called for enactment of legislation to provide pensions for World War I veterans.

"Presently, there are 685,000 veterans of World War I, surviving from the 4,750,000 who served during that conflict," Carey told the committees. "They are at an average age of 83, and their mortality rate is high.

"This generation of veterans not only served gallantly in the first World War; they also founded The American Legion; they survived the Great Depression; they lent their strength and support to the three wars of this century that followed theirs; it was they who developed the concept of readjustment programs for returning service men and women.

"The men and women of the first World War have not had an easy life. They have come into their later years, in many cases without the level of economic security that most the rest of us can expect to have when we retire from active work."

Carey said the Legion would submit draft legislation to the new Congress in January to implement Resolution 220 adopted at the New

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"She'll only be a minute—care for a game of monopoly?"

THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE

Orleans convention to provide for the World War I pension.

Veterans unemployment, he continued in his testimony, is a challenge to Congress and the Administration and the Legion accepts this challenge as well.

Carey accused the Department of Labor with being lax in carrying out employment programs for veterans that Congress has provided.

"There is, in our judgment, a singular lack of sensitivity by the Department of Labor to veterans employment programs," he testified. "A number of things have occurred this year to illustrate this point. Among them are the appointment, confirmation and resignation of the first Deputy Assistant Secretary of Labor for Veterans Employment and the abolition by the Department of the position of Director, Veterans Employment service."

"To remedy these errors, and to attempt to instill into the Department of Labor an appropriate sensitivity to the problems of unemployed veterans, The American Legion continues to advocate the establishment of the position of Assistant Secretary of Labor for Veterans Employment, with the Veterans Employment Service as a separate agency."

He also contended that the Department has been lax in enforcing, in the case of federal contractors, the requirements that they, as well as the federal government, must take affirmative action to hire and promote eligible Vietnam era veterans.

To achieve this, he said, the Legion is supporting legislation to delete the 30 percent disability requirement and to require only a 10 percent service-connected disability or more, and to delete a stipulation that Vietnam era veterans must have been discharged within 48 months preceding application.

In conclusion, Carey thanked Congress for its interest in and concern for the problems of America's 26,500,000 veterans. ■

VA's Annual Report Available

VA's annual report—a 355-page publication on the nation's nearly 30,000,000 veterans and how the agency serves them—can be obtained by sending \$5.50 to the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

Medical Care Increases

More veterans received medical care through VA last year than ever before. Some 181,000 veterans were under care each day—up 800 over the previous year.

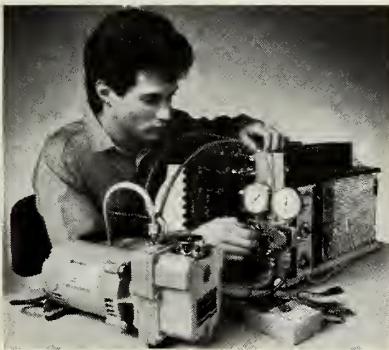
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The Disarmament Lobby

In 1969, the anti-ballistic missile system (ABM) was ready for full-scale deployment. The anti-ABM campaign successfully limited the system to two sites, leaving most of the American people completely defenseless against a nuclear attack. The job was finished in 1975 when Congress voted to dismantle the only ABM base then operating.

New Anti-Defense Coalition

Today, the anti-defense lobby is still at work and stronger than ever. More than 70 organizations are members of or are cooperating with the Coalition for a New Foreign and Military Policy.

This coalition is not really new but it has changed its name since it was known as the "Coalition to Stop Funding the (Vietnam) War." Even the individuals are familiar. Most of them were leading spokesmen and organizers in the anti-B-1 campaign.

The coalition's agenda includes: stopping the cruise missile, the M-X ICBM, the Mark 12A warhead and the neutron bomb.

A special "working group" within the Coalition for a New Foreign and

Military Policy has been lobbying for Congress to pass the so-called "Transfer Amendment" which would slash the defense budget by an additional \$12 billion and use the money for increased domestic spending.

No one would claim that most of those who are working for the Transfer Amendment are less than sincere in their belief that money can be safely transferred from the defense budget to domestic spending. However, the Communist Party USA is clearly delighted at the prospect of such a sharp reduction in U.S. defenses. In referring to the Transfer Amendment in the February 1978 issue of the Communist Party's theoretical journal, *Political Affairs*, Gil Green, a member of the Communist Party's Central Committee, writes, "Certainly no Communist, class conscious person or progressive, should need special prodding as to the importance of this fight and the need for active and leading participation in it."

The Coalition also has a Disarmament Working Group which wants to stop all new U.S. nuclear arms, pass the SALT treaty, cut the military budget, pass the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty, stop

U.S. plutonium production and cut U.S. arms sales to our allies. Like the other working groups in the Coalition, they have put out an *Action Guide* directing their supporters to write to the President and Congress, write letters to the editor, start or join local anti-defense committees, organize vigils, and get anti-defense views on TV and radio.

Needed: A Pro-Defense Coalition

If those who favor a strong defense are to prevail, they too will have to become active, vocal and coordinated. Unless the millions of members of patriotic and pro-defense organizations and the millions who belong to no group at all start to work together to make their voices heard on the issue of national defense, then national policy will continue to reflect the anti-defense views of the organized minority.

The President's Blue Ribbon Defense Panel concluded in 1970 that, "Weakness of the U.S. would be the gravest threat to the peace of the world." World peace and our survival as a free nation may depend on the creation and success of pro-defense coalitions willing to take a stand for American military superiority and peace through strength. ■

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**Jay Hedden, Editor
Workbench Magazine**

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WORLD WAR I: The Final Curtain

this sector he called up 27 reserve divisions for support.

It took six more days of heavy fighting to secure the Argonne forest. Afterward, engagements from the fortified hills between the forest and the Meuse lasted until the end of October before the German third defense line was broken.

By November 1, the U.S. Army along with the V Corps was driving forward to take the heights south of the 4th German line close to Barri-court. This victory forced the Germans to withdraw behind the Meuse. By November 5th the III Corps had made deep penetration and finally gaps along the Old Hindenburg line. American casualties were high—120,000—but the pressure exerted by the Meuse-Argonne battle was enough to bring the Germans to their knees. The military objectives won by the doughboys were important, but even more significant was the balance of manpower. The U.S. input of fresh and enthusiastic troops was steadily whittling away Germany's remaining military reserve. As Germany's soldier inventory shrunk, the Allies' increased.

The hopelessness of Germany's position was apparent to all but a few die-hards among the German High Command. On October 4th, Germany had initiated peace feelers to Wilson. They were spurned by the President who would accept nothing less than riddance of Germany's bad boys—the Kaiser and the German military clique—as well as a total surrender.

Incredibly, the Allies were not officially advised of the exchanges between Wilson and Germany. As a result, stormy meetings were held over armistice terms. Wilson's Fourteen Points, a blueprint for peace, were not the substance of the exchanges. The Allies were principally concerned with disarming Germany, hobbling her militarily and economically to prevent her rise in the future. How many men died or were crippled while the politicians on both sides strutted on the world stage will never be known.

The hopes of structuring a lasting peace from the ashes of World War I were doomed at the Peace Conference. The process of redrawing Europe's boundaries proved to be nettlesome and unrealistic. Major powers angled for rich annexations while lesser powers clawed for fringe benefits. There was a unanimity in punishing Germany with heavy obliga-



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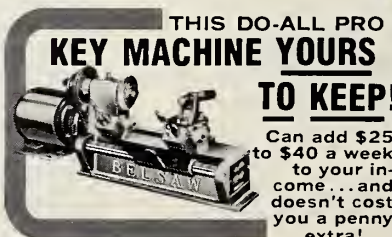
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tions in reparations she could never hope to pay. When the U.S. Senate rejected participation in the League of Nations, it signaled America's entry into new isolationism, renouncing a role in world peace keeping.

The military lessons learned from the war were better understood than political or economic affairs. Logistical problems involved in conducting total war created a new emphasis on high command organization and structure. Mobilization of industry with adequate lead time would now be essential. The air force's function would go beyond military observation and ground support of troops. It had the potential to strategically bomb civilians and military alike. Although then of limited effectiveness



The railroad coach in which the armistice was signed, with some of the principals. Gen. Weygand is second from left; Marshal Foch is second from right

due to design and mechanics, the tank would, in the future, be the key for infantry attack.

For some, World War I forged a military career that would take them to new heights 33 years later—such men as George C. Marshall, Douglas MacArthur and George S. Patton Jr., are familiar to anyone interested in World War II history.

To deliver the promise of "the war to end all wars," America had provided her best in a gallant army greater in the measure of courage and enterprise than in experience and competence. But this can be excused since it was a civilian army, handicapped by limited training. With rare exception it more than met its objectives under fire to achieve superb results. ■

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Tips On Life Insurance Loans. Social Security Pointers. Price Cuts In Solar Heating.

As usual, when interest rates are high, **people tend to increase their borrowings against life insurance.** It's by far the cheapest way to get a loan (5 percent on older policies, ranging to around 8 percent on newer ones). But is it a good idea? Here are some basic considerations:

- The amount you can borrow against your life insurance (but not term insurance) is determined by 1) cash surrender value of the policy, and 2) the percentage of cash surrender value the insurance company will permit you to borrow. Often it's 100 percent. But sometimes it may be lower—say 95 percent—depending on company.

- **The loan involves no red tape whatsoever**—no checking of credit ratings, no delays. You merely send in the proper forms, and that's that.

- **Nobody will hound you to pay back the loan.** You can settle up at your own pace—or, for that matter, keep it going indefinitely.

On the other hand, you should remember the potential drawbacks:

- If the loan—or any part of it—is outstanding at the time of your death, that amount, plus accumulated interest, **will be subtracted from the proceeds of the policy.**

- If you don't discipline yourself into paying back within a reasonable time, the continuing interest charges will mount so high that the advantages of the loan are wiped out.

★ ★ ★

Changes in the Social Security law will affect you noticeably next year, whether or not you're retired. Here are four of the major ones to keep in mind:

- 1) **Your taxable earnings base will rise** from \$17,700 to \$22,900. Also, the contributions rate will be upped to 6.13 percent for employers and employees (it remains at 8.1 percent for the self-employed). So figure on a bigger slice out of your paycheck.

- 2) If you're retired, you can earn up to \$4,500 in 1979 without being penalized, providing you're 65 or over (the ceiling is \$3,240 for those under 65). But note: A special dispensation may apply for the first time a retiree exceeds the limit; and there's no limit for persons aged 72 or over.

- 3) **The minimum benefit for people who worked for many years at low wages will be increased,** depending on years of service. A couple in this category can get up to \$345 per month in 1979 (as against a top of \$270 this year).

- 4) **Benefits for widows and widowers will not be reduced or cancelled in 1979 if they remarry at age 60 or over.** Benefits previously reduced will be increased.

★ ★ ★

Price cuts on solar water-heating systems are beginning to appear here and there. But don't mistake them for permanent reductions due to mass-production economies or competition.

The real reason is that Congress has been slow to vote tax breaks for solar-energy buyers. So **manufacturers are trying to substitute temporary incentives of their own to get the ball rolling.**

Price of a solar water-heating system, including taxes and installation, now runs about \$2,000 (less whatever discount the manufacturer happens to be offering). Presumably you could recoup this investment in a range of six to nine years, depending on where you live and the behavior of fuel prices.

Strongest markets right now are 1) among upper-income homeowners, and 2) home builders, particularly in California, who install solar energy systems into the original residential package.

—By Edgar A. Grunwald

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11)

The Yamato

hitting, with some assistance from submarines but none from ship's gunfire except anti-aircraft batteries. Men on the *Yamato* were disgusted as the ship hovered beyond reconnaissance or attack range several hundred miles to the rear, while Admiral Yamamoto tried to direct the operation. His yeoman recalled that "he sat sipping rice gruel helplessly on the forward bridge . . . his face was ashen, his eyes glittering strangely." On June 6, the scheduled invasion date, the supership was 600 miles from Midway, turning tail and running fast in a calm sea for the home islands. On the port deck her commander, Capt. Gihachi Takayanagi paced nervously, worried about attack from American planes and submarines. After the debacle, the *Yamato* was taken into hiding, ordered to the less vulnerable west coast and based at Akita in the northern part of Japan.

ABOARD THE SUBMARINE *SKATE*, 180 MILES NORTHEAST OF TRUK ATOLL . . . 2237 HOURS . . . CHRISTMAS NIGHT, 1943

Hunting for enemy shipping between the Truk naval base and the Marshall Islands, the *USS Skate* surfaced. Lookouts scanned the bright sea and Cdr. E. B. McKinney, the skipper, was given the approximate range and direction of an object off the starboard beam. He swung binoculars up and caught it—a dark looming mass dead in the water about 3,000 yards off. At first he thought it was Ponape, but that island lay too far south; then, straining, he shaped the silhouette of a huge Japanese battleship.

"Lookout below . . . Clear the decks." Men dropped through the conning-tower hatch and McKinney followed, shouting, "Dive! Dive!"

Just as a sailor spun the hatch-securing wheel, three Ginga night fighters and a Betty bomber ran in over the enemy ship for a pass at the *Skate*. There were no hits but concussion rocked the sub and McKinney ordered a crash dive. He waited a few minutes then took her up to periscope depth and scanned with the No. 2 scope for a wider field and more light. There was no sign of planes. He returned to the attack scope and quickly picked up the target. The sonar operator said he could hear a ship's screws turning over. The target was starting to run north.

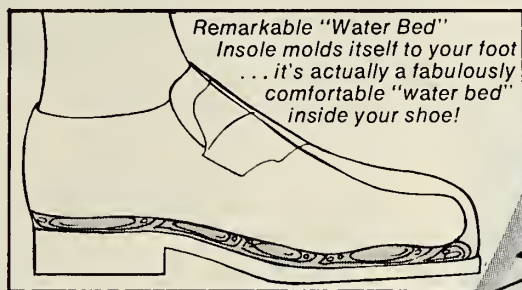
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six five zero." McKinney kept the ship lined in the crosswires. "Fire!"

The sub shivered four times at 1½-second intervals as the torpedoes were loosed. Sailors held their breath until McKinney's jubilant cry, "Four . . . all four fish hit!"

The great ship was aflame, a section of her starboard side stove in. McKinney wanted to surface or hang below in the area for a better look, but enemy destroyers were closing in. HEADQUARTERS, U.S. NAVAL INTELLIGENCE, PEARL HARBOR . . . 1030 . . . 6 JANUARY 1944

"Unfortunately," Rear Admiral Hunnicut told his staff, "we still don't know which battleship was sunk. McKinney's report said he couldn't get any identification. But

from his description it's assumed to be the *Yamato* or *Musashi*. We know the *Shinano* is being converted to a carrier." He was handed a radio dispatch from a carrier group probing in the Marianas. "Good news, gentlemen. The *Musashi* was identified by reconnaissance aircraft off Tinian, in perfect operational order, I might add."

With one supership written off, Admiral Nimitz ordered all task forces at sea to make an intensive search for the *Musashi* and destroy her.

But McKinney and the rest of the Navy underestimated the incredible hardness of the *Yamato*. Limping badly, only one port engine operating, vulnerable to attack, she made it back 2,300 miles to Japan. But her

wounds canceled an express run with troops to reinforce garrisons on New Ireland and the Admiralties, islands of the Bismarck barrier protecting Rabaul, the enemy's vital base in the Southwest Pacific.

THE CARRIER STRIKE ON TRUK, WEST CENTRAL PACIFIC . . . FEBRUARY 1944

On February 4, Air Command Solomons directed a Marine-manned Liberator based at Torokina on Bougainville to make a photo reconnaissance of the objective. Truk atoll, containing a dozen volcanic islands, was a vast fleet anchorage, airbase and staging point for planes between Japan and the South Pacific. The navigator by dead reckoning hit it on the nose after flying 900 miles at night. Because of the length of the flight and cloudiness, the coverage wasn't complete, but sufficient to indicate shore installations and reveal choice targets at anchor: one battleship, two carriers, five heavy and four light cruisers, 20 destroyers, 12 submarines, plus many merchant ships. The photo interpreter kept studying the still-wet sheets, fascinated by one speck, then turned to a lieutenant. "The battleship . . . it's the *Musashi*!"

"It can't be. A dispatch yesterday said she was spotted off Mindoro in the Philippines, a couple of thousand miles away. Not even the Nips build them to run that fast."

"They have nothing else this big"—the sergeant hesitated to say it—"unless it's the *Yamato*."

The officer bent over the photos, shaking his head. "It has to be. The sub didn't finish her off. Four torpedo hits . . . My God! What will it take to sink her?"

In Vice Admiral Marc Mitscher's task groups the news brought nervous, excited talk. Every bomber crew wanted the war's prize coup. A radioman-gunner on a Dauntless said maybe it was the *Musashi* at Truk and the *Yamato* off Mindoro, then agreed that no pilot could mistake the two . . . nothing afloat looked like the *Yamato*.

Dawn of February 17, 90 miles northeast of Truk, Mitscher launched the initial strike of 72 fighters from five different carriers to knock out enemy air power before the bombers came in. The strikes continued for two days, including the first night bombing attack on shipping by carriers. The force downed 30 planes in the air, destroyed 365 on the ground and sank 200,000 tons of shipping—two cruisers, one destroyer, one armed trawler, two subchasers, two subteners, an aircraft

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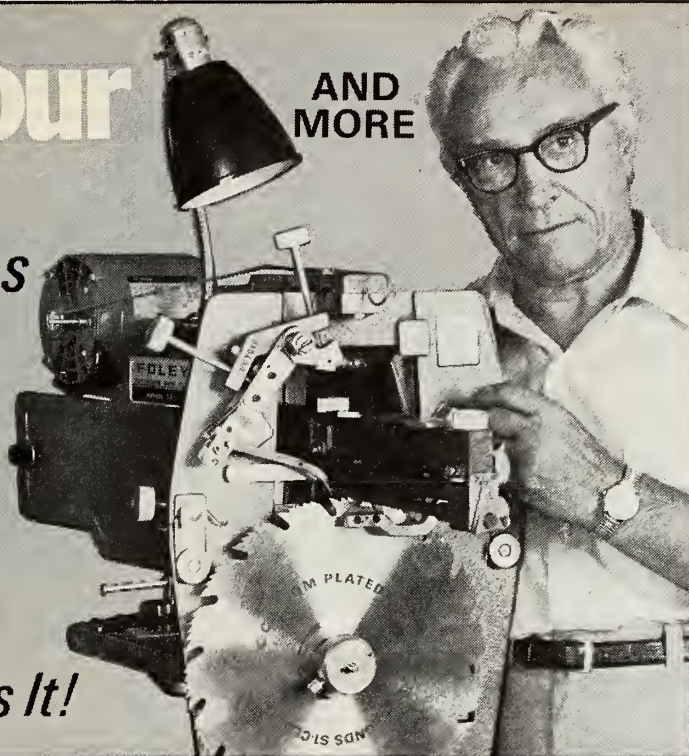


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William Wescott
Willoughby, Ohio 44094



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Victor Kosloski
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ferry, six tankers and 17 merchantmen—one of the most successful carrier operations of the war.

On return to base, pilots were interrogated by Air Combat Intelligence. But when asked about the *Yamato*, the reply was always negative. Tipped by the photo reconnaissance, Admiral Koga had sent elements of his Combined Fleet to Palau, while he returned to Japan in the *Yamato*. The supership had been marked for slaughter, but again slipped the trap. One ACI officer stared at two oversized models of Japanese battleships emblazoned with question marks. The *Yamato* and her sister ship roamed free, their murderous gunfire still a threat.

THE DESTROYER HAILEY RANGING NORTH OF MARCUS ISLAND . . . 1833 HOURS . . . 4 MARCH 1944

The fantail lookout suddenly shouted, "Jap battleship astern—it's the *Yamato*!"

A chief petty officer came up on the run, peered out to sea, then looked at the young sailor with exasperation. "It's three blue whales grouped, stupid."

In a third attempt to reinforce Biak Island, north of New Guinea, the *Yamato* and *Musashi*, a light cruiser, and eight destroyers were detached from the First Mobile Fleet to the Kon Force. On June 10, 1944, under command of Vice Admiral Ugaki on the *Yamato*, the ships departed Tawi Tawi, between Borneo and the Philippines, and crossed the Celebes Sea to Batjan, where a change of orders was received. A thousand miles to the northeast the U.S. Fifth Fleet attacked the Marianas as prelude to the invasion of Saipan. The Biak operation was suspended, and on June 12 Ugaki hastened north to rendezvous with the main body of Vice Admiral Ozawa's Mobile Fleet.

The Battle of the Philippine Sea, June 19-20, was another disaster for the Japanese: three carriers sunk and 476 planes lost in the "Marianas Turkey Shoot." In the greatest carrier battle of the war, neither the *Yamato* nor any surface ship on either side fired a shot. No American ship had yet come under her broadside—13 tons of steel and explosive. The enemy forces retired, and the *Yamato* slipped into Lingga Roads, near Singapore. For the next months planes and ships searched for her, but she was nowhere to be seen on the seas.

As the Pacific war tide began engulfing the Japanese Navy, and with the Americans scenting victory, the



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NANCY BLAIR

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It really shaped up my figure — I just couldn't be
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mer movements have
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reducing effect which
goes on working even
as he relaxes.

After his brief period
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moves his Astro-Belt.
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Fred lost 4 full inches
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first day—and 8 full
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users are losing 3, 4 or even more inches from their waistlines
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matchless body shaper melts excess inches off the waist,
abdomen, hips, thighs with such amazing speed that if you do
not lose 2 to 4 inches from your waistline without dieting in
just one day you may simply return your Astro-Trimmer and
your money will be refunded.



JIM CHANDLER

"When I first got my
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from 39" to 33¾" —
3 inches the very
first day. Now, if
I get too busy to
use it for a few
weeks, it's great
to know I can
get out my
Astro-
Trimmer,
zap 3 inches
off my waistline
in 10 minutes and
look my best and
trimmest the very
same day."



BEFORE

CHUCK POPE

"When I found my waistline mea-
sured nearly 40 inches, I realized I
had to do something about it: The
trouble was nothing I tried, including
diet, helped—until I found Astro-
Trimmer. Then, incredibly, in just 3
quick ten minute sessions I reduced
my waist over 5 inches, down to 34
inches, with no dieting. And even
now, 2 months after my ini-
tial program my waist-
line remains a firm
34 inches."



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Yamato was still afloat and a distinct menace to the U.S. fleet.
ABOARD THE CARRIER YORK-TOWN . . . 7 APRIL 1945

The gong suddenly broke the stillness. The air crews tumbled out of bunk rooms on the run. A pilot asked an ACI officer what was happening.

"A Nip force coming down—and the *Yamato's* with it."

"I saw her when we hit Oita and it scared hell out of me. She looked like the Empire State with a foremast . . . She really out there?"

"She's the only one left that big." The officer grinned. "The monster's out of the cage."

"Oh, man, let's get hauling," the pilot said and rushed topside.

Estimated distance to the target was 240 miles and Combat Information Center kept adjusting data from the tracking mariners. There was an anxious wait, then the assistant air officer's voice blasted through the bullhorn:

"Prepare to start engines! . . . Stand clear of propellers! . . . Start engines!"

Avenger, Helldiver and Hellcat engines blared to power. Taxi crews brandished red and green flashlights in the morning darkness to guide planes to takeoff position. The first plane off at 1000 hours momentarily dipped below the bow, then scratched for altitude. Waiting pilots shoved the canopies forward, minds racing, trying to tell themselves it was only a routine mission. But they were going after the greatest prize of the war.

EAST CHINA SEA, 150 MILES SOUTHWEST OF KYUSHU . . . 7 APRIL 1945

A British observer was with Mitscher aboard the *Bunker Hill* when he launched the torpedo bombers.

You've launched before you can possibly be sure of their location. The reports say they're moving evasively but fast."

"We're taking a chance," replied Commodore Arleigh Burke, Mitscher's chief of staff. "We're launching against the spot where we would be if we were the *Yamato*."

At 1131, Vice Admiral Ito commanding the suicide mission from the *Yamato* received a transmission from the Amami-Oshima lookout station, midway between Kyushu and Okinawa:

250 American planes heading north.

He estimated they'd be overhead in an hour, and ordered distance between the 10 ships opened to 5,000 yards, standard procedure against air attack. At 1220 the *Yamato's* radar

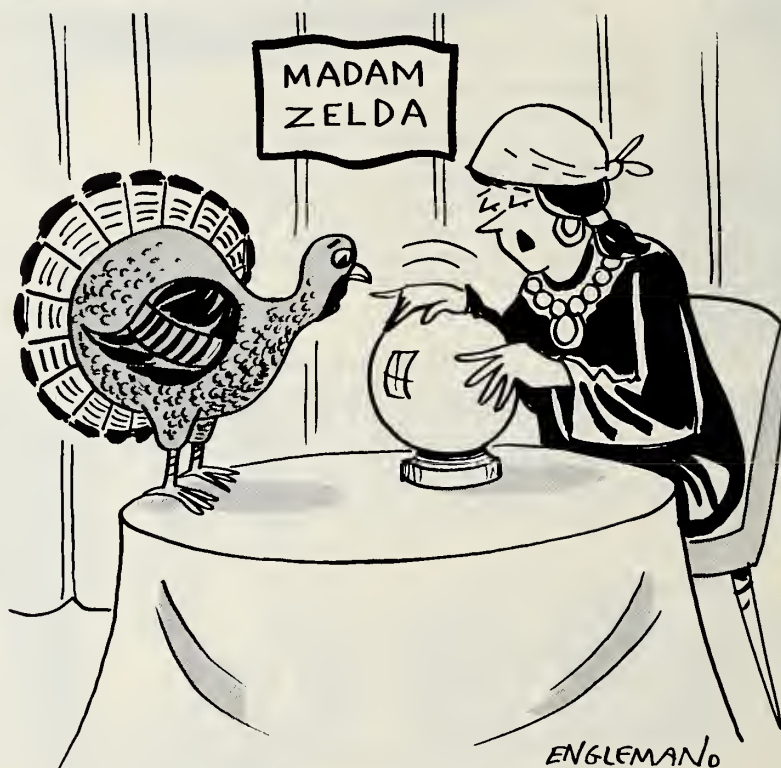
picked up a contact and Ito radioed the alert:

Large group of planes distant 33,000 yards bearing 35 degrees port. All possible speed ahead. Prepare for antiaircraft action.

The force began to make nearly 30 knots, the ships straining and shuddering. The *Yamato*, raising monstrous bow waves, inspired an almost religious faith in every man of the fleet. They thought it a good omen that Rear Adm. Nobuei Moroshita, who had commanded her at Leyte, was aboard as Ito's chief of staff. Surely he would bring her luck again. They were heartened when the cloud cover dropped. Jags of lightning bristled almost overhead

At 1241 the *Yamato*, pulling ahead at flank speed, received two bomb hits near the mainmast. Five minutes later the first torpedo hit was made by Lt. Cdr. Chandler Swanson off the *Bunker Hill*. A Dauntless laid a 1,000-pound bomb into her massive after-turret. The two-stage ammunition hoists prevented the explosions from reaching the magazine, but three of her big guns were silenced.

Between 1300 and 1417 the *Yamato* was under constant attack. Led by Cdr. John Hylands, the *Intrepid's* Air Group 10 connected with a torpedo and eight bombs. Then four torpedos smashed into her port side and created serious flooding. She began to list, making other big guns inoper-



"I see November as your unlucky month"

THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE

and in seconds a squall closed about them.

Lt. Thaddeus Coleman in a Hellcat fighter was closing fast with the first wave:

"We looked like blackbirds hunting for farmer Ito's granary. It was tougher and tougher. Rain and clouds. A bomber finally got a radar contact. But we couldn't see a thing, not even the formation right in front. A Hellcat pilot radioed that he was over the target location and wanted to know where were the Japs. That was the last message I remember. They'd jammed our radios and now we couldn't see or hear. Then we spotted the AA bursts—and there they were."

able. The *Yamato's* skipper, Rear Adm. Kosaku Aruga, ordered the starboard engine and boiler rooms—as the largest compartments of the ship—counterflooded to try and right her. Crews working in the spaces were warned too late and hundreds died, caught between the rushing cold sea and steam from damaged boilers. At 1403 two torpedos shattered a vast section of her starboard beam.

The radio room, supposedly watertight, flooded completely and the *Yamato* had to rely on flag and light signals. Bombs reduced the decks to cracked and twisted plates, trapping men, and fires flared everywhere. An explosion in the emergency dispen-

sary killed all medical officers, corpsmen and wounded. Only one screw working, the *Yamato* kept losing speed, her bow beginning to plunge almost vertically. A ship built to dominate the seas, she was defenseless now, only a few 25-mm cannon and machine guns firing.

Planes began to make selective runs on the battered ship. Six *Yorktown* torpedo bombers came in for the kill. Lt. Thomas Stetson, leading this last attack, saw the *Yamato's* heavy list to port, her massive belt of armor on the starboard side high out of the water, exposing the vulnerable underbelly. Taking the Avengers around to the high side, he ordered the torpedo depth-settings lowered from 10 to 20 feet. Five hit true.

Her bottom ripped out, pushed over by the appalling force of underwater explosions, the *Yamato* rolled slowly on her beam ends, listing at 22 degrees—the maximum set by her designers for safety. Lt. Cdr. N. H. Houck put a last bomb in her forward bridge, a ceremonial coup de grâce. All communication to the bridge was cut, the steering room flooded and the rudder jammed hard left. The list increased and the distress flag was hoisted, the ship ordered abandoned. The destroyer *Fuyutsuki* was called in by blinker to evacuate men, but her skipper stayed clear, figuring his small ship would be dragged under as the behemoth sank. Admiral Ito formally cancelled the operation, shook hands with his officers and withdrew to his cabin to die.

Her deck nearly vertical, battle flag almost sweeping the waves, the *Yamato* was in agony. Shells of the big guns skidded and rolled across the ammunition-room deck, crushing men against the bulkheads and kindling a series of explosions that catapulted many into the sea. The *Yamato* shivered and smoke belched from her waterline, soaring in huge clouds more than a mile high. At 1428 she heaved up at the stern and plunged into the sea.

Lt. Richard Simms, one of the Marine pilots who had tracked the *Yamato* that morning, observed her death throes:

"She was covered with clouds of black smoke. We flew low over the area and saw hundreds clinging to wreckage. They never had a chance. It looked like there were no rafts or lifeboats. And that ship—I knew she was the enemy and we'd hunted her for years. But, God, she was a beautiful thing. No man who ever saw her will forget her."

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(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4)

Letters to the Editor

to the military. As colonial historian Thomas Fleming stated: "The British Army, commanded by Gen. Burgoyne, smashed itself to pieces on Kosciuszko's fortifications and surrendered to Gen. Gates on October 17, 1777."

COL. FRANCIS C. KAJENCKI
El Paso, TX

BULL'S EYES

SIR: I wish to congratulate you on the latest issue of The American Legion Magazine. It has improved greatly and is the best of the military fraternal publications. Two articles in the September issue were a treat to read, one about the "Guadalcanal Miracle Girl," the other on Sgt. York from the Tennessee hills and his rise to fame. I was in World War I veterinary corps as a motorcycle driver. As you know, horses played quite a role in that war. I'm 86 now and remain well because I keep busy. Congratulations!

GEORGE POHL
St. Johns, MI

SIR: The September article "Couriers: Today's Pony Express," was of particular interest to me. During the years 1947-48 I was assigned to the Civil Affairs Division of Hqs. EUCOM, Frankfurt, Germany as officer in charge of all couriers to and from the U.S. I was the first WAC officer to be assigned in such capacity. My duties also included those of Courier officer, Hqs. EUCOM for a radius of 50 miles, accompanied by a male/sergeant driver. When the Berlin airlift went into effect we assigned the courier to deliver the historic letter from Gen. Lucius D. Clay to Washington.

BEA STECHER
New York, NY

SIR: Your article in the September issue "Guadalcanal's Miracle Girl," was most inspirational to all of us. In this age of supposed "family decay" there are many fathers and mothers keeping the home fires burning, while not much is written about "mother's love." We hope and pray that through this story many mothers will realize their serious mission in life.

MRS. PETER A. DICKASH
Buffalo, NY

SIR: Three of us heard Guy Empey (May issue) in June 1918 at the Kokomo, IN movie house. Inspired by the words of the fiery little soldier, we boarded an interurban, went to Indianapolis and enlisted. Thanks for the article.

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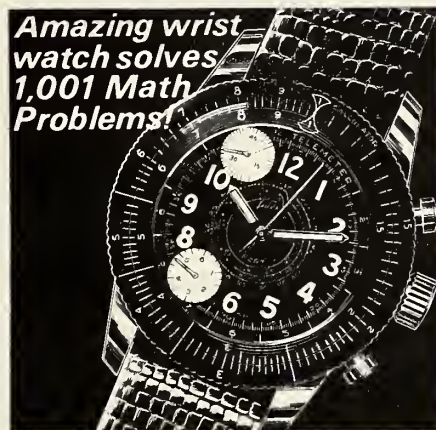


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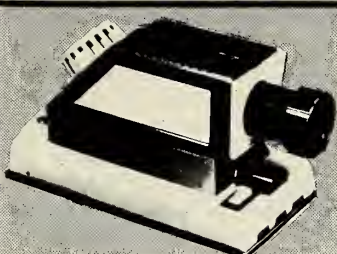
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The Great American Card Game

The Civil War was an important factor in the rapid spread nationwide of poker's popularity. The game was a favorite pastime of the soldiers of both armies and at the war's end they brought it home with them. Apropos, each side contributed an individual general as a poker great. One was a brilliant commander who often successfully employed poker strategy in his military operations. The other was the author of the first treatise on poker.

Confederate Gen. Nathan B. Forrest applied his poker knowledge to war, especially the importance of understanding opponents. Often his triumphs were over numerically stronger forces, and in such cases he usually resorted to his poker-learned talent for bluffing. His most

system and practice to his military operations . . . and in these he showed an intimate knowledge of human nature, of man's weak as well as his good and strong points." Wolseley concluded by deploring the fact that Forrest was not trusted with the command of armies instead of "weak regiments and brigades."

Although both were affluent, a wide environmental gulf existed between Forrest, a successful Tennessee planter and trader before the war but possessing only the rudiments of learning, and his Yankee counterpart, Union Gen. Robert Cumming Schenck. The latter, a university educated lawyer, continued the promising law career begun before the war, then served terms in Congress from his Ohio district prior to entering the diplomatic service. In 1870, he was appointed minister to the Court of St. James, when Queen Victoria was still

those not too familiar with the game. The General complied, and in a letter about it later to a friend said, ". . . and thought little more of my act of politeness." However, what he had written privately was published by his hostess. Eventually it became known in the United States where, at that period, some reformers were smearing poker as a wicked gambling game. The furor eventually resulted in Schenck resigning his post, based on the claim of his enemies that he had "lessened ministerial dignity."

In 1880 Schenck, back in America, had the treatise printed in hard-cover booklet form. Many of the suggestions it contains for successful play in standard draw poker remain valid. He also implies that the basic reason for poker being the traditional American game is because it reflects a characteristic desire to excel on one's own. Schenck puts it this way: "In poker each player is for himself and against all others." A biographical sketch of Schenck in "Generals In Blue," by Ezra J. Warner, describes the General as a celebrated 19th century figure who is almost unknown today. The author adds that of all Schenck's accomplishments, he is best remembered for his treatise on draw poker.

To look for incidents of compassion and solicitude in poker, especially such generosity as the big winner giving the big loser his money back, is unrewarding, but the record is not entirely barren. Two remarkable instances exist, though the benefactors were among the more unlikely individuals to fill such a role.

Rep. Thaddeus Stevens of Pennsylvania was a stern abolitionist and the most powerful figure in Congress during the Civil War and post-war periods. His granite personality left little room for the softer virtues. Stevens used his great power and influence in opposition to Lincoln's policy of moderation for the defeated South, and eventually became the chief architect of the Reconstruction. In the estimate of some of his enemies the course he pursued against the Southern States was that of a vindictive Robespierre. However, Stevens was not completely dominated by his adamant political purpose, and almost nightly sought distraction playing poker. A wealthy bachelor, the challenge of the game appealed to him more than its gambling aspect. One evening he won \$300 from a young man who appeared so distressed when he left the table that Stevens made inquiries and learned that the money he'd lost had been carefully saved to pay for an



"I wish you'd stop pouting about our last argument—I've got another one to start"

THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE

acclaimed bluff was the capture of a column of 1,500 Yankee cavalrymen on a raid in the Alabama uplands near the Georgia border. With a cavalry force of 500 men, he had pursued Colonel Streight, a Yankee commander, for several days over rugged terrain. When Streight halted his exhausted troopers at Lawrence, AL, Forrest, by tricky maneuvering of his force out of gunshot but in view of the enemy, and by other stratagems, managed to convince Streight that he was greatly outnumbered. It worked and Streight surrendered. The greatest eulogy bestowed on Forrest was by British Field Marshall, General Viscount Wolseley, celebrated veteran of 50 years of campaigning in the Crimea and other areas. "He loved the game of poker," Wolseley said of Forrest in his autobiography, "and applied not only its phrases, but even its

on the throne, and became immensely popular in English society and a friend of the Prince of Wales, afterward Edward VII, and various members of the nobility. Schenck, the Prince and certain of their intimates occasionally played poker for reputedly high stakes, but it was a poker game in which the stakes were pennies and sixpences that led to the General's treatise on poker and his subsequent downfall. This happened in 1872 while he was a weekend guest at a summer home in Somersetshire. His reputation as an authority on the American game of poker preceded him and poker was one of the games played as part of the evening recreation. Prior to his departure his hostess decided to ask him to write down the rules of the game and also some pointers for correct play, explaining that it would be helpful on other occasions for

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imminent honeymoon trip. Inexplicably motivated, Stevens visited the man's fiancée, and gave her the \$300 so the honeymoon trip could be taken as planned. He enjoined strict secrecy of his visit and identity and it was not until some years later after Stevens' death that she told the story.

In the latter part of the 19th century, Jay Gould, financial genius, had become an international figure, his very name synonymous with wealth and power. While not even remotely a Howard Hughes in his desire for personal privacy, Gould—as one writer put it—remained in the shadow of his financial empire and often was able to appear in public without being recognized. He enjoyed this anonymity, which generally was respected by the few who were aware of his identity. While relaxing one evening in the mezzanine

more, the former said that he would call if Gould would accept his note. Gould agreed and won, his small full house beating the other's flush. Later, the young man, now sober and realizing the utter folly of his act, suffered bitter remorse. Meanwhile, the hotel manager, who knew Gould, interceded with him to let the youth off the hook, saying that he had a wife and young baby, and a good job, but that the \$20,000 blow would ruin all. Gould had the loser brought to his suite, chewed him out artistically and made him promise never again to risk his family's happiness for a moment's pleasure. Gould then returned the \$20,000 note, which he had endorsed over to the man's wife, "so that she would have knowledge of his weakness for their future well being."

The annual Las Vegas poker game production—culmination of which is

dents. They were leaders of the city's sporting set and perennial rivals in horse racing and other forms of fast action, but it was in poker that their desire for supremacy was most intense. Each claimed to be best at the game and either could have been correct as they were about even in talent. Many sensational head-to-head games had failed to settle the issue but the one this evening had taken an extraordinary turn and the score or so of onlookers, somewhat back from the poker table, and about evenly divided in loyalty, weren't long in sensing that a dramatic finale was building. The game started about ten p.m. and as daybreak approached the planter was about \$20,000 ahead. He could have quit, as he had given his opponent sufficient playing time, but, flushed and excited, he wanted to continue. The crisis occurred not long after, on the importer's deal. The betting commenced routinely but soon all the cash they had and cheques for the total of their bank reserves had been wagered, the pot at that point worth \$300,000. At the suggestion of the planter they decided to wager their total property—the planter his plantation and the importer his warehouse and some real estate—the approximate value in each case being \$250,000, raising the total value of the pot to \$800,000, the biggest pot on record. The onlookers crowded closer as the hands were displayed. The planter had four aces—and lost! The importer's hand was a six high straight flush. The odds against four-of-a-kind pat are 4,165 to one; the odds against a straight flush pat, 64,974 to one. After-game fall out placed the importer, who was dealing, in the enviable position of being positive that he couldn't lose. He was said to have admitted that the planter looked at his cards in the fatal pot as each was dealt but did not even touch the fifth card until reminded by the dealer to pick it up, although he had meanwhile bet heavily.

The biggest pot of recent times, in a stud poker game in New York in the Twenties, was worth \$605,000. The players were the fabulous Nick the Greek and the notorious gambler, Arnold Rothstein. At the start of the spectacular pot each had a king showing. Heavy betting occurred as play progressed, and by the time each had four cards in sight there was \$321,000 in the center of the table. Prior to the final card being dealt, Nick had a cinch as he was backed up with kings and the next highest card in his hand was a jack, Rothstein's next highest a 10. Nick's bet before the



"Do you know 'Melancholy Baby'?"

THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE

lounge of a Chicago hotel, he amused himself by watching a poker game among some well-to-do young men enjoying a night out. The players soon became boisterous, the result of drinking too freely, and the loudest of all was the one who apparently was the big winner. He had noticed Gould, whose appearance may have indicated a middle-class bookkeeper or other type of clerk, and he invited him to get in the game. When Gould declined, the young man sneeringly said that if Gould played they would make the limit 10¢ for him, instead of the present no limit. Gould then assented, saying the limit need not be changed, and soon proved he was no green hand. In a short time he and the man who had insisted that he play were competing for the biggest pot of the evening. When his opponent had raised Gould's last bet with all the money he had, and Gould had casually re-raised \$20,000

one of more than 30 players winning the \$300,000-plus pool—falls into the "Can you top this?" department. The poker game in which the contestants play, each putting up \$10,000, is a freeze-out variation of 7-card stud. It is colorful, exciting, extremely well publicized and, according to the promoters, for the "world championship" of poker. It has to be conceded that even taking inflated values into consideration, the immense reward to the winner unquestionably is impressive in relation to the great majority of poker games in this country today. If judged by standards of the past, however, the case is otherwise.

A decade or so after the end of the Civil War a luxurious suite of the famous St. Charles Hotel in New Orleans was the scene one evening of an historic draw poker confrontation. The principals, both wealthy, were a planter, scion of Creole aristocracy, and an importer, of Yanke antece-

final turn of the cards was not too steep although Rothstein's cards in sight were the king of diamonds and two other diamonds. Had he bet more substantially Rothstein may have folded but Nick probably figured that Rothstein also was backed up with kings, or had the ace of diamonds in the hole, and in either case he chose to gamble for more profit with the odds about three-to-one in his favor. Rothstein drew another diamond and when Nick checked he bet \$142,000, which Nick felt he was obliged to call. Rothstein won the \$605,000 pot with a flush, his hole card the ace of diamonds.

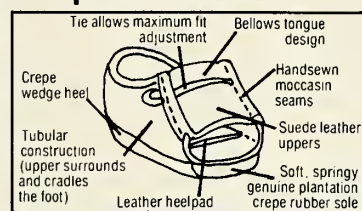
Certain issues involving poker remain undetermined because, in a general sense, the players themselves aren't too interested. The foregoing has no reference to the game flexibility, the fact that it is played in hundreds of forms in addition to traditional five-card draw and stud, and also the fact that there actually are no uniform rules or, more elegantly, jurisprudence covering technical points. (In this area there are of course many similarities but there also are important divergences. Commercially operated poker games usually have nearly all potentially contended points covered by House rules but it occasionally happens that a House official is required to make what corresponds to a judgment call, the same as in football and other sports. Private games also usually operate under general rules but sometimes decisions have to be made by the host or majority vote of the players.) Mechanically, of course, there is just about universally accepted procedure, such as dealing from left to right and five cards constituting a hand, even if in many of the non-standard forms the finalization of the five may be by a circuitous route. There also is uniformity in hand values, except in cases where five-of-a-kind, made possible by use of wild cards, may beat a royal flush.

With this type of situation prevailing in poker it is not surprising that its very origin is to some extent still controversial. That its original progenitor was the ancient Persian game of As Nas is more or less generally accepted, but how it evolved into poker, and where the evolution took place, remains, in the opinion of some, moot. What actually happened was that games based on As Nas were played in countries of medieval Europe under indigenous names; in England the best known derivatives being brag and post and pair. It is claimed by some that the English games gave birth to poker, such



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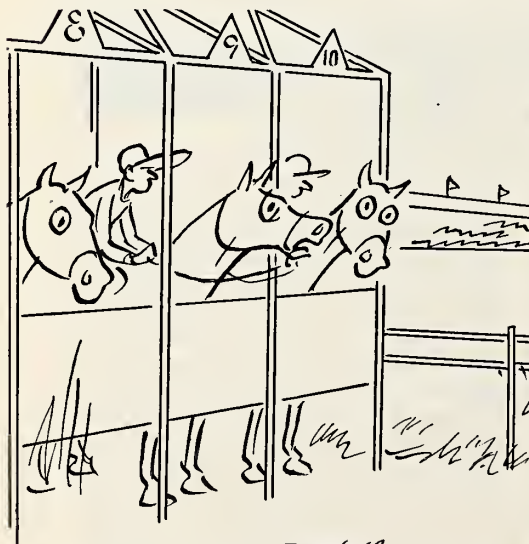
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games being popular early in the country's history in the New England states and in Washington, the nation's capital. The best evidence, however, is that poker originated in New Orleans in the early 1800's when certain features of As Nas were made part of French poque, popular coffee house game of that city and a favorite of the aristocratic Creoles.

And now, the stunner! The fine London card game pundit, Edmond Hoyle, celebrated as a teacher of whist and other games, died 50 years before poker originated, so the sacro-

sanct phrase that one's position is "according to Hoyle," in poker game disputes over technical points, is mere bombast. Some students of poker knew for many years that Hoyle had no claim to his nonpareil poker reputation, from the viewpoint of chronology alone, but there was no documentary proof. Not too long ago New Orleanian Allen Dowling, who has written extensively on poker, and who is recognized as an authority on the game by the Encyclopedia Britannica, set out to get the evidence, if it actually existed. His col-

league, Judge Oliver P. Carriere of the New Orleans Civil District Court, who possesses what probably is the world's greatest collection of books and documents on poker and Hoyle, joined in the quest. (Incidentally, his researches established that poker originated in New Orleans.) Inquiries were made worldwide by Carriere through the rare book dealers in his files, but without success. Dowling finally discovered in the British Museum a copy of Hoyle's treatise on brag, written in 1751, a game that could be called a very rudimentary form of poker. Brag was played with a 22- or 26-card deck, depending on the number of players. A hand was three cards and there was a draw. Two of the jacks and one of the nines were "braggers" or wild cards, but natural combinations beat bragger hands of equal strength. The only hands that could be made were high card, one pair, three's. Hoyle gave up brag as a bad job after one printing and never included it in his "Hoyle's Games," of which there were 17 editions. A few years after his death, another London card game textbook writer used Hoyle's name in the title of a book he brought out, calling it "Hoyle's Games Improved." The use of the master's name boosted sales immediately and when brag was expanded to a game somewhat similar to poker a few decades later, Hoyle's name was conveniently used and thus became a fixture. The practice continues to the present, and so little actually is known of the facts that there are people today who believe that Hoyle is still alive—perhaps functioning in the capacity of elder statesman in Jimmy the Greek's organizations. ■



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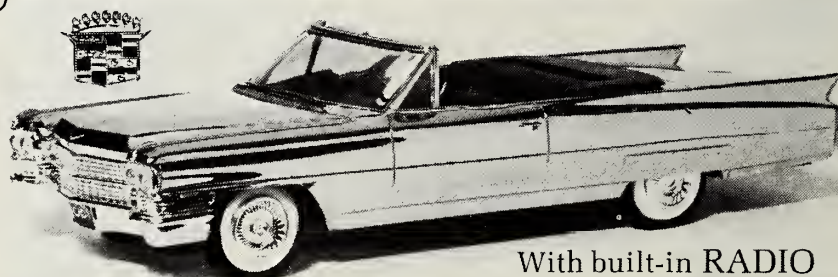
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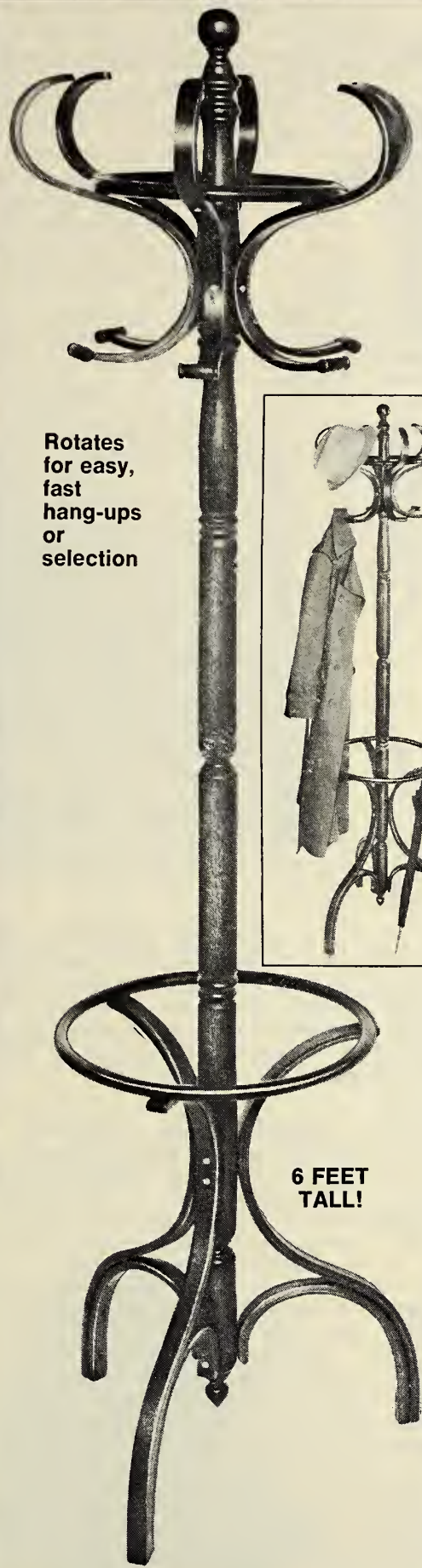
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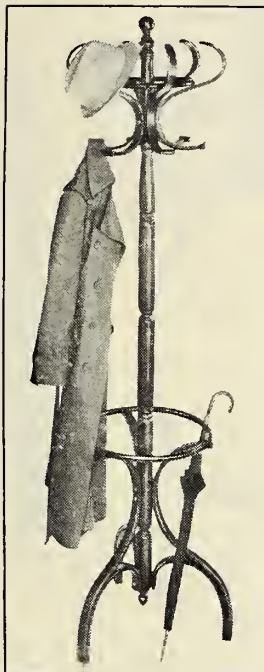
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(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4)

Commander's Message

It is also obvious that as Soviet military power grows, the men in the Kremlin become more truculent, dé-ente notwithstanding. It is still possible to deal with them but increasingly it has to be on their terms, with few concessions. In short, we can expect a harder line from them, whether the subject is SALT, African adventurism or human rights.

By now we should understand the Soviet way of doing things. Its ultimate expression can be found wherever the Reds have seized control. The peoples of Czechoslovakia, Hungary, East Germany, Poland and elsewhere have learned at first hand about the Russian way, and no peoples have suffered more at the hands of the Kremlin than the Russian people themselves.

Why should the people of this country expect any better treatment if the Soviet Union, by force or threats of force, should ever subjugate these United States?

There are many who believe that this frightening possibility can be prevented by signing treaties. This kind of thinking is apparent in many segments of our society. There are those who offer all sorts of concessions if only the Soviets will put their names to a treaty, any treaty.

However, it was Lenin himself who described treaties as piecrusts, easily broken. One of the latest of these Kremlin-baked confections was the Helsinki agreement, which among other things promised that the people behind the Iron Curtain would be permitted basic human rights. The point is that any treaty with the Soviet Union will be honored only as long as it suits that country's purposes. This is a fact that our leaders should know but unfortunately it is something they all too often forget.

There are many who feel that we can shift some of the burden to other nations, through such alliances as NATO. We should indeed join in alliances with other non-communist nations, and work to strengthen them. But in doing so we should recognize they depend on us more than we can depend on them and so, in the final analysis, the responsibility for our national security is essentially ours alone.

This is the answer to those who oppose a strong defense with the argument that it is not really needed, that national defense is merely a vast conspiracy on the part of the so-called military-industrial complex to

extract billions from the U.S. Treasury.

Preparedness does indeed take a lot of money, but if we do not want to encourage Soviet adventurism by showing that we lack both the means and the will to defend ourselves, we must make that sacrifice. However, we have to see that it is spent wisely. Too much is at stake to turn our defense budget into a gigantic pork barrel to benefit individuals, groups or even communities.

There are those who believe in peace at any price, those who mouthed such slogans as "better Red than dead." Actually, these people want peace but they want it without either cost or effort. Unfortunately, peace cannot be obtained in that way.

Peace has its price and it is not cheap. The things that this country needs and the things that must be done to prevent war or to survive a war if it should be forced upon us are costly. This means sacrifices in areas where it is politically popular to be generous. But the alternatives are unthinkable. Fighting a war is one, with tremendous costs in human and material resources. Losing such a war would mean that our beloved nation would become a Soviet America. It is not red-baiting to point out that communist strategy insists that the entire world must become communist if the world envisioned by Karl Marx and Nikolai Lenin is to work.

To prevent the unthinkable, we must be prepared, utterly and fully. It is our life insurance policy on the United States as a nation. The premium costs a lot of money but it is one we cannot afford to be without.

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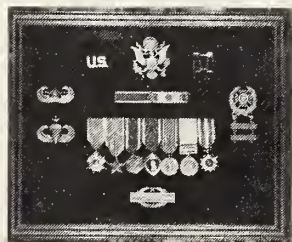
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(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9)

Fiber Optics

in Chicago which is carrying information between our Wabash and Franklin Central Offices and the Chicago Loop area. Moreover, the lines are carrying what we call Picturephone Meeting Service, a high-quality video signal which allows visual contact between parties. I have seen the system in action, and it is working most satisfactorily despite the rigors of the test. Some cables run through wet tunnel systems as close as two blocks to the Chicago River, and the tunnels often date to the 1890's."

Installing such a system to withstand specialized natural and man-made assaults is not without its peculiar demands. Communications fiber optics must be pure and as free from defect as possible, and they must be strong.

"Bell Labs engineers, working with the Corning Glass Works in Corning, NY have produced a special glass which provides amazing clarity and maximum strength," observed Charles Beck, Nebraska Engineering and Network Manager for Northwestern Bell in Omaha. "If you were to look through an ordinary quarter-inch pane, you would see some attenuation, or image fall-off and distortion. With the Corning glass, a slab 500 feet thick—slightly less than twice the length of a football field—would yield approximately the same amount of attenuation."

With the advent of splicing techniques which allow fibers to extend almost without limit, breakage becomes a major factor. "Strong" glass is being produced in lengths reaching one kilometer, and stronger than stainless steel wires of the same diameter. In tests, the glass filaments withstood pulling forces of more than 600,000 pounds per square inch before breaking.

Primary advantages of fiber optics in communications extend to both company and consumer. A massive volume of information can be sent over laser light beams encased in glass.

"Many of the cables are being constructed to enclose 12 bundles of 12 fibers each for a total of 144 fibers," explained Omaha's Beck. "Capacity in that instance would be about 96,000 simultaneous conversations traveling at near the speed of light within a cable about the size of an average man's index finger."

Don't expect fiber optics to appear linked to your kitchen telephone in the near future. As engineers see them now, fiber optics offer their

greatest rewards in high-traffic areas, almost exclusively between telephone central offices. That doesn't mean the consumer won't one day transmit over laser light beamed through glass filaments. On the contrary. Telephone researchers hope to find a way to put them into general use, a discovery which they say could hold down company operating costs and, in turn, subscriber bills.

Although fiber optics are best known in the realms of futuristic computer societies and communications, still another field draws heavily on their capabilities. That area is medicine, by its very nature perhaps the most important of the three. Through fiber optics, physicians are finding ways to cut patient costs and increase diagnostic capabilities.

"Fiber optics are used in a wide variety of areas within medicine," says Dr. Richard M. Skibba, assistant clinical professor of Internal Medicine at the Wichita Branch of the University of Kansas Medical School. "Using these fiber bundles, we are able to look directly into the human body, in many instances an ability far superior to X-rays or even internal cameras. We can now view the gastrointestinal tract from the esophagus through the duodenum, the first section of the small intestine. And we can inspect the colon, the lowest part of the large intestine, and even look into the terminal ileum, the lowest section of the small intestine."

Fiber optics also allow physicians to look directly into injured or inflamed joints.

In medicine, as in communications, fiber bundles are used to transmit light. But here, that light is for illumination, allowing doctors to scan trouble spots within the body's dark interior. The fibers light a specific area, then transmit an image to the physician. Viewing is accomplished on a small screen, roughly comparable to those used in home-movie projection. Twists and turns within the interior body canals pose no problems, since the flexible fibers follow the pathway.

"There is no question that fiber optics have helped us diagnose more accurately various lesions throughout the digestive tract," Dr. Skibba says. "They have made it possible to differentiate between simple inflammation and malignancies in the stomach and intestinal lining.

"Roughly 10 percent of all gastric ulcers are cancerous, but X-rays often fail to reveal their true nature. In the past, the physician was forced to say, 'Okay, we'll take another

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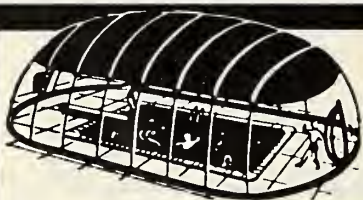
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Dr. Skibba's primary field deals with the colon and the formation of polyps, potentially cancerous and lethal growths. Fiber optics, he has found, are vast improvements over previous detection and removal methods, resulting not only in technical advances for the doctor, but cash and time savings for the patient.

"Through fiber optics," he said, "we now are able to look into the colon and investigate the polyps. Previously, X-rays were our only avenue of location, and surgery was our only removal technique. That meant at least four days in the hospital at a cost to the patient of between \$1,500 and \$2,000, frequently more. Now, we can diagnose the problem and remove the polyp, while cutting hospitalization time to two days and the cost to \$500 to \$600. Then, too, the patient can return to work immediately upon release, and

that decreases time lost from the job, an added, hidden expense."

Adaptability is an important word when considering fiber optics, and it comes to the forefront in medicine. Objects lodged in patients' throats can be easily located with the light-transmitting fibers, slender forceps inserted through the center of the bundle, and the obstruction extracted without surgery and with only minor discomfort. Fiber optics can locate the source of internal bleeding and, although it does involve some risk, veins can be cauterized with electric probes. In the near future, Dr. Skibba reports, lasers are expected to perform the same procedure with substantially less danger. In most cases, such tasks can be performed with only a local anesthetic.

There seems little which fiber optics cannot achieve in one form or another. They have a place not only in computer societies, communications and medicine, but in photography, electronics of all sorts and night vision apparatus. They even light the dashboards of late-model cars. In the years ahead they promise to invade virtually every aspect of life. There would appear to be no end to the awesome possibilities of these strings of glass.



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LIFE IN THE OUTDOORS

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THE AVERAGE sportsman who selects a first rifle or shotgun for his wife, son or daughter incorrectly believes that its most important feature is that it must be light enough to be carried easily for miles through woods and fields without being too much of a burden. He doesn't seem to realize there are other considerations which are actually more important. A beginner's interest in hunting will not be maintained simply because a gun is easy to carry and lift to the shoulder. The beginner must also be able to hit something with it. The most disappointed novice in the world is one who shoots at a bird or animal on a number of hunting trips with an experienced hunter and each time fails to bag the game.

A very heavy firearm can be a disadvantage but one of average weight—from 7 to 8 pounds—is not as discouraging as it may seem. A boy or girl may object to the weight when the gun is first lifted but the controlling arm muscles are soon conditioned to the weight. Also, in the excitement of the hunt, the burden is quickly ignored. The advantage of a firearm of average weight is that it can be in a caliber (rifle) or gauge (shotgun) most suitable to the game being hunted. It must be realized, too, that lightweight guns recoil more than heavier ones and thus are less comfortable to shoot, punishing the shooter's shoulder more severely. The recoil of even an 8-pound gun may seem severe to a novice shooter who first fires the weapon on a target range, but it isn't even noticed when the shooter fires the gun at an animal or bird.

The .30-30 caliber in a light lever-action carbine is often chosen for a beginning deer hunter. The firearm is small, short-barreled as well as light, and it is easily operated. Its big disadvantage is that it kicks like a mule. Its .30-30 cartridge has enough power to drop a large animal, but the bullet must be accurately fired into a vital area, which is difficult for a beginner. Actually, this rifle is more for a seasoned veteran. A better choice for the beginning deer hunter is a bolt-action rifle in the more powerful .30-06 caliber, which is a better game stopper and doesn't require such exceptional accuracy. Similarly, the beginner's shotgun often chosen is the .410 gauge in either a slide action or autoloading type. This gauge, too, is one which requires extreme accuracy. It fires a very small quantity of shot in a very small circular pattern and unless the

flying bird is centered in this pattern it will escape unscathed. For the best chance of dropping the bird, a gun firing a 12-gauge shell is advised. Its barrel should have an open choke for shooting all birds except waterfowl in which case a full choke is more lethal at greater ranges. The 12-gauge open choke provides the beginning shooter with the widest possible shot at closer ranges and thus increases his chances of hitting the flying bird. The auto-loading type rifle or shotgun, firing as fast as the shooter pulls the trigger, has less recoil than other types but must be handled carefully since it is always loaded ready-to-fire. For safety, a beginner, under supervision, should be restricted to loading the gun's magazine with only one shell or cartridge at a time.

Sights are not important with a shotgun since this firearm actually is **pointed**, not sighted, but a beginner's rifle should have a telescopic sight of two or four-power magnification. It is easy to use, and provides good accuracy.

Every beginner should become used to his new firearm by practicing raising it to the firing position at the shoulder while standing in front of a mirror (after the experienced shooter of the family has determined definitely that the gun is unloaded). The tips included in this column also apply to a .22 Long Rifle caliber rifle used for hunting small game.



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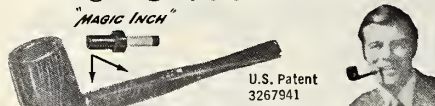
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(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15)

Messages from the Next Cell

fill me in on the music, news and lack of sports, as he put it.

John explained that we were in the camp called "Plantation." He was in Warehouse 13 west, I was in Warehouse 13 east. We remained in solitary over the next year. In addition to each other we communicated with other parts of the camp by various inventive and roundabout methods. But that communications was not the personal-voice type contact that John and I had.

Shortly before Christmas 1969, John and I were caught up in a communications bust. I had been relaying information from the guys in the "Gunshed" to John and he had a way of getting it to the rest of the "Warehouse." I got my contact with the "Gunshed" when they were brought down to the wash court. The guards came in the middle of the night. They told me to prepare to move to a camp where I was to be punished for my criminal activities. I was able to walk now so they didn't have to carry me to the truck waiting in the courtyard. Before they put me in the truck, I was blindfolded.

As we were rolling through the streets of Hanoi I felt someone tapping on my thigh in soft subtle pressure. "HI, I JOHN McCAIN, WHO YOU?" My throat felt tight as I worked my hand around to squeeze his. "EB HERE."

Almost four more years of war were to keep John and me from meeting in person. As we faced each other at the White House dinner, tears filled my eyes. I thought of that year of frantic communications through the wall.



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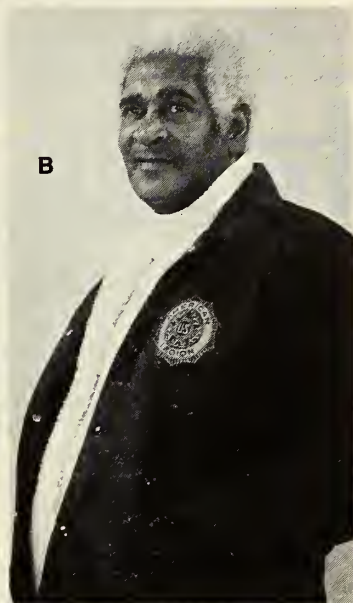
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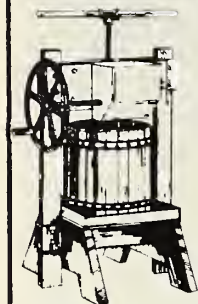


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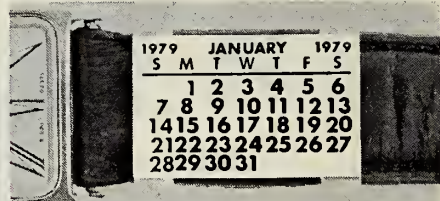
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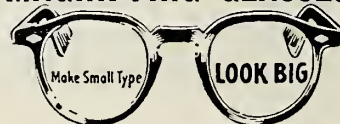
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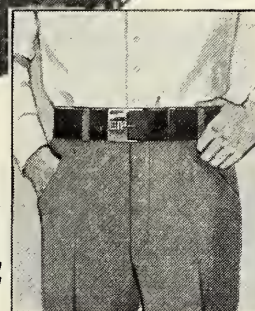
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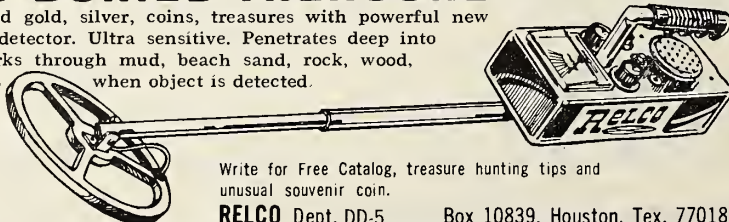
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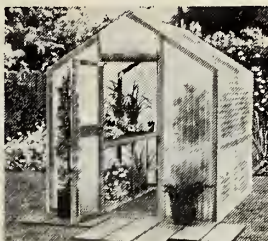
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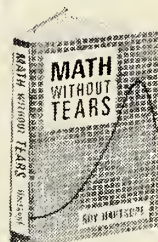
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THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE

CASH CLAQUE . . .

At the conclusion of a concert two ushers were applauding louder than anyone else. People seated nearby smiled at the two music enthusiasts until one was overheard to say, "Keep clapping. One more encore and we're on overtime."

—GENE YASENAK

GIVING SPIRIT?

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—T. J. MCINERNEY

WORDS TO THINK ABOUT . . .

Life is like a taxi—the meter keeps running whether you are getting somewhere or merely standing still.

—LUCILLE GOODYEAR

SO TRUE . . .

People who live in the past say it's cheaper.

—FRAN ALLEN

SIGN OF OUR TIMES . . .

Put in your two cents worth...and it costs fifteen cents to mail it.

—MARY RUDDY

MIDDLE AGE . . .

When a man returns a wink with a blink.

—GENE FORSTER

IN EXTREMIS . . .

When in need of a helping hand look at the end of your arm.

—GEORGE BERGMAN

EARTHLIGHT SONATA?

When we live on the moon I wonder,
How will it sound...the thunder?
And when we view the sky with delight,
Will we say, "What a lovely Earth
tonight?"

—RUTH M. WALSH

MATERNALLY SPEAKING . . .

Thanksgiving comes in November.
That is the rule,
But I think Thanksgiving comes
The day they open school!

—BETH COOK

There should be a fortune waiting for
the person who can invent a windshield
wiper that won't hold parking tickets.

—JUNE FLYNN

RATE OF EXCHANGE?

Despite our fears about our economy—
Inflation, and all that jazz . . .
Nothing can replace the American
dollar,
In fact, it almost has!

—CAROL MAYFIELD

HIROHITO'S REVENGE

I fought the Japanese in Guadalcanal,
In Truk and Guam and Iwo Jima,
But today I had to surrender my job
To a hatchback made in Hiroshima.

—WILLIAM D. MACKEY

A TALKING POINT

I've learned something that makes me
cry.

When my money talks, it says good bye.

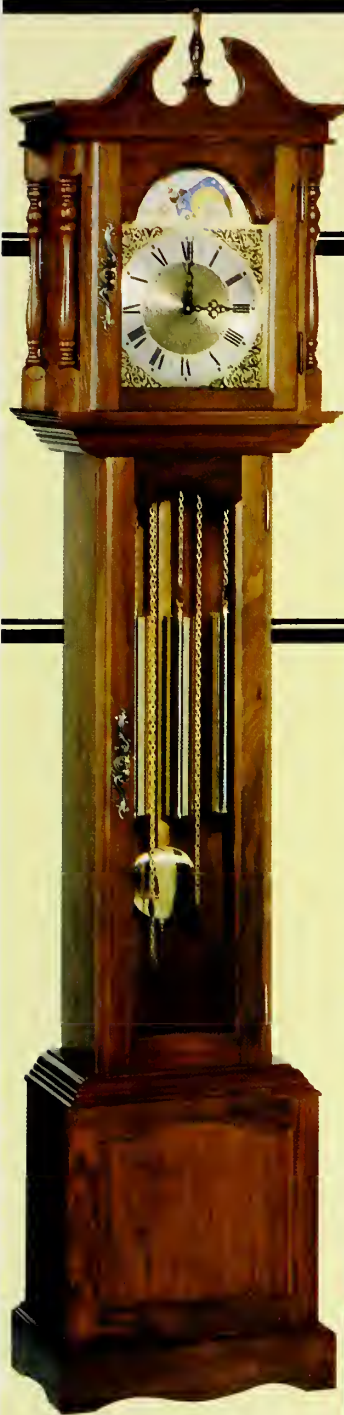
—LOIS LEURGANS



ENGLEMAN

"Business is good . . . but then it
always is during an election year"

THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE



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COLOR	Waist	Inseam
Blue Minicheck		
Grey Houndstooth		
Green Houndstooth		
Brown Minicheck		
Brown Solid Color		

HABAND COMPANY
265 North 9th Street
Paterson, N.J. 07530

Good Idea, Haband!

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70D-010

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